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Minister faces flak over hasty explanation as train inferno leaves 73 passengers dead

Witnesses dispute Sheikh Rashid's claim that gas cylinders caused blast

By Irfanul Haq & Shakeel Ahmad

RAHIM YAR KHAN/MULTAN: In a rare and one of the most horrifying tragedies in Pakistan Railways' history, 73 passengers were killed, with 90 per cent of them burnt alive, and over 40 injured when three coaches of Rawalpindi-bound Tezgam Express caught fire near Liaquatpur on early Thursday morning, with a number of witnesses strongly disputing Railways Minister Shaikh Rashid's claim that a couple of gas cylinders carried by a group of Tableeghi Jamaat members had caused the inferno.

Some passengers died and others sustained multiple fractures when they leapt out of doors and windows of the moving train in a bid to escape the blaze.

Mr Rashid said the affected coaches — one business class and two economy — carried over 200 people who boarded the train from Karachi, Hyderabad and Mehrabpur and were bound for Raiwind's annual Tableeghi congregation.

He said they were preparing breakfast at around 6am when the cylinders exploded.

However, a Tableeghi Jamaat member, who survived the blaze, told TV channels that cylinders were empty and were meant for use (cooking) during the three-day congregation which began on Thursday evening.

He said the two cylinders and a stove were in the economy class while the fire initially erupted in the business

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RAHIM YAR KHAN: Thick clouds of smoke rise from the carriages after the ill-fated Tezgam Express caught fire on Thursday.—Online

Tezgam tragedy: Editorial on Page 8

Pakistan, China reject held Kashmir bifurcation

Term Indian action illegal and void; Islamabad says move violates UN Security Council's resolutions, bilateral agreements

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China on Thursday rejected bifurcation of occupied Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories, saying Indian action was illegal and void.

The statements from Islamabad and Beijing came as India put into effect the bifurcation of occupied Kashmir into Union Territories (UTs) of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and the lieutenant governors for the new territories took the oath of office in Srinagar and Leh.

The division has been done under "The Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019" that was introduced in Indian parliament simultaneously with the abolition of Article 370 through a presidential order on Aug 5. The legislation splitting held Kashmir into two new UTs received Indian president's assent on Aug 9, after both houses of Indian parliament passed it. It, however, took effect from Oct 31.

Pakistan's Foreign Office in its reaction said the bifurcation of the occupied region did not alter its disputed status as it had been split in violation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreements, including Shimla accord.

The Chinese foreign ministry said Indian action was "not effective in any way".

Both Pakistan and China had in August rejected the amendment of Article 370 and the announcement to divide the occupied region.

The FO in its statement on the latest development said that "Pakistan rejects the bifurcation of Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories" as occupied valley was an internationally recognised disputed territory. "No step by the government of India can change this. These changes are illegal and void as per the relevant UNSC resolutions, and do not prejudice the right to self-determination of the people of occupied Jammu & Kashmir," it further said.

The FO noted that the measures announced by the Indian government on Aug 5 regarding the revocation of Article 370 and bifurcation of occupied Jammu and Kashmir had been

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No flag, constitution for held Kashmir under its new status: Page 14

After four-day journey, 'Azadi march' lands in capital

- JUI-F chief insists that marchers will also stage sit-in
- Fazl, Shahbaz to address public gathering today
- Govt warns protesters against 'challenging state's writ'

By Syed Irfan Raza

ISLAMABAD: After a four-day journey from Karachi, the Azadi march, led by Jamiat Ulemai-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman, finally reached the federal capital on Thursday and encamped at a vast roadside area near the Peshawar Mor interchange.

Before the march entered Islamabad, the JUI-F chief announced that the marchers would also stage a sit-in without telling whether it would be held at the particular place earmarked for the marchers' camp or the protesters would proceed to D-Chowk where the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf had staged a four-month-long sit-in in 2014 when it was in opposition.

Shortly before the arrival of the main caravan, a rally of the Awami National Party (ANP), led by its president Asfandyar Wali, also reached the venue of the joint opposition's show of strength, from Peshawar, demanding resignation of Prime Minister Imran Khan for what it called 'pushing the country into the worst economic crisis'.

Later, Pakistan Peoples Party chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari visited the main camp of marchers and addressed them, saying all opposition parties had gathered at one platform to give a clear message to Prime Minister Khan that the time had come for him to step down.

Calling PM Khan a "puppet", he said the nation was not ready to bow its head before a "selected" prime minister and "those who have selected him". "We are not ready to bow before any selector or dictator... The hub of power is people and not the state."

Other prominent opposition leaders who spoke on the occasion were Asfandyar Wali, Ahsan Iqbal and Khawaja Asif of the PML-N and Qaumi Watan Party leader Afzal Shirpao.

The managers of the Azadi march will organise a public meeting after Friday prayers which will be addressed by Maulana Fazl and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz president Shahbaz Sharif.

Before reaching Islamabad, the marchers had a long stopover of 10 hours in Gujar Khan amid speculation that they could change their route after entering Islamabad. On this, a senior official of the local administration rushed to Gujar Khan, met Maulana Fazl and convinced him to stick to their previous route plan.

Govt reaction

Interior Minister retired Brig Ijaz Shah and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAMP) on information Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan spoke at a joint press conference on Thursday morning, assuring the marchers that the government would facilitate them until they remain peaceful and follow the agreement signed between the opposition's Rehbar committee and the local administration of Islamabad.

Defence Minister Pervez Khattak, the head of the government's committee negotiating with the opposition's Rehbar committee, said the

Continued on Page 5

'Azadi march' betrays lack of coordination among parties: Page 14

Prices of three petroleum products raised

By Khaleeq Kiani

ISLAMABAD: The government on Thursday increased the prices of three major petroleum products — high speed diesel (HSD), petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) — for the month of November to generate an additional revenue of about Rs700 million.

On the other hand, it reduced the prices of two comparatively insignificant products — kerosene and light diesel oil (LDO) — as recommended by the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (Ogra).

According to a notification issued by Ministry of Finance, the ex-depot price of petrol has been increased by Rs1 per litre and that of HSD by 27 paisa per litre. However, the ex-depot price of kerosene and LDO has been reduced by Rs2.39 and Rs6.56 per litre, respectively.

Consequently, the ex-depot price of HSD has shot up to Rs127.41 per litre from Rs127.58 per litre in

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ON OTHER PAGES

More removal pleas to Twitter than ever

The social networking website's latest transparency report reveals that over 200 requests for content removal were sent by Pakistan to Twitter this year, recorded as the highest so far. The report shows that between January and July of 2019, the government sent 273 requests for removal of content and reported 1,768 profiles. While the number of profiles reported dropped from 2,300 requests for account information witness an uptick this year. Page 14

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ھمارے دو قسم کے گروپ ہیں

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اس گروپ میں آپ کو روزانہ نیوز پیپرز ھیڈلائینز
ٹالک شوز ڈرامہ لرننگ بکس ویڈیوز ملینگے انشااللہ

اس گروپ کی ھر ماہ فیس ہے صرف 30 روپے

ایڈمن امان اللہ کھوسہ بلوچ 03053028815#03082969945

(2) ایف ایم اسپیشل فرمائشی گروپ

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ایک دھماکے دار آفر ایک فرمائش روزانہ آپکی اس گروپ میں پوری کرینگے ڈرامہ سونگ مولود شریف یا کچھ اور جو آپکا دل کرے فرمائش اخلاق اسلام۔کے دائرے میں ھو فرمائش کرنے کا طریقہ کار گروپ میں شامل ھونے کی بعد گروپ پروفائل ملاحظہ فرمائیں اس پر عمل کرنہ ضروری ہے

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ایک دھماکے دار آفر

ے آفر آپکو صرف اور صرف ایم ٹیم دے رہی ہے

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Nawaz's platelet count 'improves'

LAHORE: Former prime minister Nawaz Sharif's platelets on Thursday increased from 35,000 to 51,000, showing improvement in his condition.

However, his blood pressure and sugar level was said to be still high.

The medical board headed by Services Hospital Principal Dr Mahmood Ayaz also examined Mr Sharif and conducted his tests.

Mr Sharif was shifted to the hospital from the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Lahore's custody on Oct 21 following his personal physician Dr Adnan Khan raised an alarm saying his (Sharif's) condition was serious as his platelets had dropped to a critically low level.

Initially, Mr Sharif was reluctant to go to hospital. However, he agreed to get treated at the Services Hospital when his younger brother Shahbaz Sharif, who was especially called there, persuaded him.

Earlier, Dr Adnan Khan had said that Nawaz Sharif's condition was "very serious" and he was fighting the battle for his health and life.

On Tuesday, the Islamabad High Court granted bail to Mr Sharif, suspending his seven-year sentence in the Al-Azizia corruption reference on medical ground. Earlier, Sharif secured bail in the Chaudhry Sugar Mills case from the Lahore High Court on medical ground.

PML-N secretary general Ahsan Iqbal had told Dawn that the first and foremost effort of the doctors was to stabilise Nawaz Sharif's condition. "Once Mian Sahib's condition is stabilised the matter of his going abroad will be considered and decided," Mr Iqbal said. —Staff Reporter

Kite string injury proves fatal for minor girl

LAHORE: A minor girl died after string of a stray kite injured her when her brother was taking her to market by motorcycle near Imamia Colony on Thursday.

The incident occurred when the siblings were going pass the level crossing, a police official said, adding that the girl was identified as Masooma (8), a resident of Dasarwal (Ferozewala). He said as they reached the main road, the string of the stray kite injured her. Her brother Abdul Raheman took her to hospital where doctors declared her dead.

The relatives and neighbours expressed anguish over the police's failure to control kite flying.

Recently, a young man had lost his life in a kite-flying related incident in Saudha and another person died in another incident. — Staff Reporter

March impacting Kashmir issue, says Qureshi

LAHORE: Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi regrets the Azadi March has shifted focus from the Kashmir issue (to the march) that was being highlighted at international after strenuous efforts.

He told reporters at Governor House on Thursday that the government had signed an agreement with opposition parties' Rehbar Committee and would honour it. He said the government gave a free hand to Azadi March protesters to arrive in Islamabad whereas in 2014 his party workers were baton-charged, when they marched on Islamabad. He said political differences should be resolved through a dialogue.

The foreign minister said the Pakistan's decision to open the Kartarpur Corridor had won the goodwill of Sikhs the world over and despite Indian shelling on the Line of Control, Pakistan did not block the corridor project.

He said Pakistan was ensuring religious freedom, while India had completely suppressed religious freedom in hold Kashmir and even mosques were being locked at the time of Juma prayers.

He said Azad Kashmir Prime Minister Raja Farooq Haider was in touch with the government and added he had right to present his case at any forum in the world. He said the Pakistan government would fully support him and added the foreign office would be on his disposal.—Staff Reporter

Plea for Abbasi's production order withdrawn

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Thursday disposed of as withdrawn a petition seeking production order of former prime minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi facing trial in contract case of liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Advocate Nasir Chohan, a voter of Abbasi constituency in Lahore NA-124, had filed the petition.

Advocate Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan, also a PML-N MPA, represented the petitioner-lawyer and argued that the people of Mr Abbasi's constituency had been denied representation in the assembly. He said the NA speaker had not been issuing production orders of Mr Abbasi, denying the voters of NA-124 right to their representation in the assembly.

However, a two-judge bench observed that Mr Abbasi should file the petition himself. At this, the counsel sought permission to withdraw the petition and the bench allowed the same.—Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Lawyers gather on the premises of the Supreme Court registry during the Supreme Court Bar Association election.—White Star

Pakistan's own pollution causes smog, say experts

Traffic, industry, agriculture major polluters with 43, 25 and 20pc share, respectively

By Kari Jalil

LAHORE: As Lahore's smog levels crossed 550 on the Air Quality Index — signified as hazardous — environmental experts and activists both express their dismay and horror at what is to unfold further.

According to some instruments installed in Lahore, the Gulberg area even recorded 600 AQI. The last level of 'hazardous' on the AQI is shown as between 250 to 300 which necessitates the people with heart and lung diseases, older adults and children should remain indoors and keep activity levels low. All outdoor physical activity must be avoided, says the index.

Imran Khalid, who holds a PhD in Environmental Policy, says that in cooler weather (autumn and winter), the warm air does not allow the cooler air underneath to rise which leads to visible smog and this is what is being witnessed in Lahore and even as far as Islamabad.

"Some of the sources for this smog include vehicular pollution with very poor fuel quality being used along with lack of pollution control technologies in our vehicles, industrial pollution, burning of municipal and even industrial waste and brick kilns which again use dirty fuel such as rubber tyres," says Khalid who also heads the Environment and Climate Change Department at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad.

He believes the situation during this time of the year is made worse by crop stubble burning and depending on the wind direction, the pollution from either side of the border with India can indeed affect the neighbouring country.

However, he adds, it is important to remember that research shows that the key sources of air pollution in Pakistan are local in nature.

"A number of national and provincial level laws exist to address our exceedingly poor air quality but implementation is lacking. In fact, we do not have sufficient number of monitoring devices to monitor the air pollution levels in real time. This has led to a growth in the number of private, hand held monitors that have been deployed by the Pakistan Air Quality Initiative (PAQI), for example. Moreover, the US Embassy has also brought in its own monitors and placed them at the Embassy and associated Consulates."

Mr Khalid points out that there is a clear lack of political will to move forward with the recommendations of the smog commission or to address the issues raised by the citizens in the climate march.

Sectoral Emission Inventory for Punjab shows that the major portion of air pollution emissions are coming from the transport sector and it holds 43pc share in all sectors (power, industry, transport, and crop burning residue). The second major pollutant is industry whose share is 25pc while the third major pollutant is agriculture which accounts for 20pc. Collectively, the main sectors creating air pollutants and emissions are power, industry and transport which have 80pc contribution to emissions and pollution, from which Punjab's photochemical smog conditions arise.

The SI Group report, prepared by the Agriculture Department and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (UNFAO), clearly states that winds are westerly in winter time. So there is little chance of crop burning smoke coming from India.

Meanwhile, there is general disappointment at the government's indifference to the issue.

Aysha Raja, a civil society activist, wants to bring attention to a letter written by Climate Action Now Pakistan to the National Assembly Standing Committee on Climate Change, headed by Mamuna Hasan, requesting that they hold refineries accountable for not upgrading to Euro 4, despite collecting 100 of billions of rupees in "Deemed Duty" since 2004.

"As citizens, it is our right to ask our government representatives to hold big polluters accountable," she says.

Another activist adds that whenever the subject is brought up, the government deflects from answering and tries to bring attention to bring electric cars.

Mueed Qureshi, an engineering expert, says generally Pakistan imports crude oil at standard international rate per barrel.

"Our local refineries produce the final vehicular fuel, and they raise or lower prices according to international rates," he says. "And yet they only provide Euro 2 compliant fuel whereas in advanced countries their refineries provide Euro 4 compliant fuel. Our refineries don't offer better quality to the market and yet draw the same benefits."

Dr Imran Khalid says that addressing the fuel quality issue would be key to long-term solution to our air pollution woes.

"In the meantime, the health of our most vulnerable sections of society such as children, the elderly, and others who live in dire circumstances are directly under threat," he warns.

Penalties over poor indicators in schools withdrawn

By Imran Gabol

LAHORE: The Punjab School Education Department (SED) has announced ending the Shahbaz-era system of punishing schoolteachers for poor cleanliness, low attendance of students, less enrollment and other administrative issues.

Teacher unions have long been protesting against the heavy fines and stoppage of promotion over not achieving targets under the Chief Minister Roadmap.

District education officers would carry out monthly inspections of schools in their areas to check 34 indicators which included teachers and student's attendance, retention, boundary wall, cleanliness in classrooms and washrooms, Universal Primary Education, classroom furniture, electricity, fan and other facilities. Monitoring teams imposed fines from Rs5,000 to 10,000 on teachers for missing indicators.

They were also penalised over different poor indicators like low attendance of students and they were directed to visit the residences of absentees a number of times to convince their parents to ensure their children's presence in school.

Teachers unions lodged complaints time and again with the department against fines over missing facilities, saying teachers could not be held responsible for poor cleanliness and absence of drinking water, electricity and furniture in schools. They demanded the posting of sweepers to ensure cleanliness and provision of funds for fixing water, sanitation, electricity and other issues.

Unions protested against the imposition of fine and stopping their promotion over poor indicators several times and termed it injustice.

SED Secretary Irum Bokhari told Dawn it was not the duty of teachers to clean school as there should a sweeper to do the job. She said in the past some teachers were forced to clean washrooms and they were also fined for poor enrollment in the school, not having drinking water and other facilities.

Ms Bokhari said the department was working to devise a new framework under which CEOs, DEAs, DEOs and administration of the school would be answerable to the department and penalised for any poor indication.

She tweeted: "Imposition of fines based upon unreasonable indicators is being stopped forthwith. I will issue directions to Chief Executive Officers. We will develop a new monitoring framework with fair & realistic indicators in consultation with our stakeholders, the respected teachers."

Meanwhile, Punjab Minister for School Education Murad Raas tweeted the notification of cancellation of fines on teachers, saying: "School Education Department has decided to steer away from excessive monitoring and focus on school improvement and action management through a new School Improvement Framework which will emphasise incentives rather than fine."

It adds the SED secretary has directed CEOs of district education authorities that all fines under any pretext would be discontinued with immediate effect.

The Punjab Teachers Union (PTU) welcomed the step of the government to reset education indicators and canceling fines.

Judgement on Maryam's bail plea reserved

By Wajih Ahmad Sheikh

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court on Thursday reserved judgement on post-arrest bail petition of PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz in the Chaudhry Sugar Mills (CSM) case after the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) concluded its arguments.

Athar Addiscinal Prosecutor General Jahanzeb Bharwana closed his arguments, a division bench comprising Justice Ali Baqar Najafi and Justice Sardar Ahmad Naeem reserved the verdict to be announced on Friday (today).

Later in the evening, the LHC media cell issued a press release saying the judgment would be announced on Monday (Nov 4).

In his lengthy arguments, Mr Bharwana challenged the humanitarian ground taken by Ms Nawaz for the relief of bail to look after her ailing father in hospital. He said the law did not have any such provision. Moreover, he said, there were no extraordinary circumstances or severe hardship in the case as per the guidelines described by the Supreme Court for the grant of bail.

He also questioned another argument by the petitioner's counsel that Mr Nawaz being a woman needed to be treated with leniency.

The prosecutor referred to a judgment wherein pre-arrest bail was denied to PPP leader Faryal Talpur. He said the request of the petitioner for bail on humanitarian ground was not maintainable. He pointed out that the petitioner had been allowed to stay with her father in hospital.

Challenging the bail on merits, the prosecutor argued that the case of the CSM had not been the subject matter of the Joint Investigation Team (JIT) formed by the SC in Panama Papers. Therefore, he said, the argument of double jeopardy made by the petitioner was not correct. He also read decision of the apex court in the Panama Papers case.

To a court's query, Mr Bharwana said the inquiry against the petitioner in the CSM was initiated after a January 2018 Suspicious Transaction Report (STR) received from the Financial Monitoring Unit (FMU). However, the bench after going through the STR observed that it was unable to find a direct mention of the petitioner in the report.

The prosecutor said the CSM was clearly mentioned in the STR while petitioner's father Nawaz Sharif was the principal accused in it. He said the petitioner had been a director in the CSM and was a beneficiary of its funds being daughter of Mr Sharif.

Mr Bharwana said the petitioner failed to explain a heavy amount of 4.8 million UK dollars received from three UAE nationals including Nasser Hussain Lootah.

At this, petitioner's counsel Amjad Pervez interrupted and said the amount in question was not transferred to her client but to Yousaf Abbas and Abdul Aziz Abbas, the directors of the mills.

The prosecutor said Yousaf transferred Rs70 million to the petitioner from the amount received from the UAE. He said the shares of the petitioner in the mills swelled from four to 47pc from 2005 to 2009 with unexplained sources of income.

Referring to a statement of prosecution witness Mr Lootah, Justice Najafi observed that the foreign national sent the money sent to Pakistan was an investment in real estate business.

"How can you call this transaction suspicious or relate this to corruption?" the judge asked the prosecutor.

The prosecutor said the petitioner was supposed to justify the suspicious transactions.

However, Justice Najafi observed that initially the burden to prove the allegation always lied upon the prosecution.

Answering another question, the prosecutor said there was no inquiry by the Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) into the suspicious transactions of the sugar mills' accounts. He added that the scope of the jurisdiction of the SECP was limited to enforcement of its regulations only as its law did not cover investigation into corrupt practices.

"Without having a definite finding can we assume that the assets of the petitioner were accumulated through crime proceeds?" Justice Najafi posed another question to the prosecutor.

The prosecutor, however, said the petitioner had failed to explain the transaction and her assets had been found of beyond known source of income. Before the bench rose, the prosecutor also submitted copies of the case law and argued that the petition was not maintainable.

Unesco includes Lahore in 'creative cities'

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Lahore has been selected in the list of cities that have been designated as Unesco Creative Cities. A total of 66 cities figure in the list for 2019.

It has been announced by Unesco Director-General Audrey Azoulay who said this step would favour "political and social innovation" and would be particularly important for the youth.

"All over the world, these cities, each in their way, make culture a pillar - not an accessory - of their strategy," he said.

The project is being run by Unesco's Creative Cities to make these places laboratories of ideas and innovative practices and help in bringing a solid contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through innovative thinking and action.

The cities in the list have committed to advocate and achieve the SDGs especially those that directly benefit communities at the urban level.

The 66 cities have all been selected for one particular field. Lahore has been selected for Literature and the other cities in this category are Angoulême (France), Kuhmo (Finland), Wonju (Republic of Korea), Wroclaw (Poland), Shemaxi (Iraq), Leeuwarden (the Netherlands), Beirut (Lebanon), Nanjing (China), and Odessa (Ukraine).

The other categories are gastronomy, music, design, media arts, and film.

The Unesco Creative Cities Network now counts a total of 246 cities. The member cities that form part of the network come from all continents and regions with different income levels and populations.

Unesco representatives said the cities work together towards a common mission - placing creativity and the creative economy at the core of their urban development plans to make cities safe, resilient, inclusive and sustainable, in line with the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

According to Unesco, its DG is responsible for the designation of the cities in conformity with a certain procedure that includes submission of an application.

PPP criticises govt

LAHORE: The PPP has criticised the government for holding passengers responsible for the train tragedy.

Party's Punjab chapter leaders Qamar Zaman Kaira and Chaudhry Manzoor said in a joint statement that the government acted shamefully by blaming passengers for the tragedy before a formal inquiry into the incident.

They said the horrible tragedy demanded a thorough probe not only to fix responsibility for but also to curb repetition of such incidents in future.

They said the rulers would have to be held accountable for all train accidents and tragedies that took place during the last one year. They asked Railway Minister Sheikh Rashid to resign accepting responsibility for the failure of his department in ensuring proper security measures.—Staff Reporter

DAWN

IHC seeks report on missing engineer

According to the petitioner, his 27-year-old son went missing from Bahria Town, Rawalpindi, on Oct 4

By Malik Asad

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday sought a report from the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances on a complaint registered in connection with a missing engineer.

According to the petition filed by Prof Mohammad Sharif, his 27-year-old son, Suleman Farooq, who is an electrical engineer, went missing from Phase III of Bahria Town, Rawalpindi, on Oct 4.

The petitioner then approached the Lohi Bher police station and got registered an FIR (first information report) of the disappearance of his son.

According to the petition, Farooq was apparently picked up by a powerful organisation and his father is running from pillar to post to know the whereabouts of his son.

He said that a complaint had also been filed with the chairman of the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances, but to no avail.

The petitioner requested the court to direct security agencies and the relevant department of the federal government to find the whereabouts of his missing son, and in case he had committed any offence, he should be dealt with in accordance with the law.

In a related case, the mother of a missing person, Imran Khan, petitioned before the IHC for the recovery of her son who is a computer engineer and was working in the UAE.

In the petition, she said her son Imran Khan was picked up from his home situated at Sector G-10 of Islamabad and was taken to some unknown location in a double-cabin vehicle. According to the petition, Imran went missing some four years back and the family got registered an FIR with the local police. However, the police failed to recover him despite a lapse of four years.

The petitioner then took up the matter with the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances and during the hearing by the commission it was concluded that the case of Imran fell under enforced disappearances and law enforcement agencies were asked to find his whereabouts.

As per petition, Imran's disappearance has adversely affected the life of his family members.

Imran is married and has a six-year-old son. His wife filed a suit for dissolution of marriage on the basis of *khula* on the ground of prolonged absence of her husband. The family judge of Islamabad dissolved the marriage and handed over Imran's son to his mother.

The petition said that Imran was an educated professional and there was no case or complaint registered against him in any police station. If there was anything against him then he should have been brought before the court of law.

It said the arrest was a violation of the constitutional provisions that ensured fundamental rights of citizens.

The petition requested the court that the officials concerned namely secretaries of interior and defence, the directors general of Inter-Services Intelligence, Military Intelligence, chairman of the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances, commissioner and inspector general of the Islamabad police might be directed to produce Imran before the court if there was any case registered against him.

The IHC after hearing the arguments on the petition sought comments from the respondents and adjourned the proceedings to a fortnight.

IHC issues notice to govt over plea seeking Indian prisoners' release

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Taking action on a petition filed by the Indian High Commission for the release of four Indian nationals, the Islamabad High Court on Thursday issued notices to the federal government for a reply.

The four were convicted by military courts for spying and the Indian High Commission moved the court after they have completed their sentences.

Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani heard the petition.

The prisoners were identified as Jaspal alias Yadpal, who is imprisoned in Gujranwala jail; Shamsuddin alias Alam and Mohammad Ismail alias Sonu, who are kept in Malir jail; and Anil Chimaar alias Anil Kumar, who is detained in Lahore jail.

According to the petition, the spies were arrested by the military authorities and were charged under Section 59 of the Pakistan Army Act and Official Secrets Act.

The petition said that the convicts had served out their respective sentences awarded by the Field General Court Martial.

The petition said that Jaspal completed his term on Aug 4, 2016, Shamsuddin on Oct 14, 2017, Ismail on Oct 31, 2016, and Chimaar on Feb 8, 2017.

The petition further said that all the prisoners had completed their respective sentences and the Constitution of Pakistan mandated in unequivocal terms that no person shall be deprived of life or liberty save in accordance with the law.

The petition argued that after the completion of the sentence, keeping condemned prisoners in jails was illegal, and requested the court to direct the federal government to release them for making arrangements of their travel to their homeland accordingly.

After preliminary arguments, Justice Kayani sought the reply from the secretaries of interior and foreign affairs and adjourned the hearing till Nov 4.

LG polls in KP set to be delayed for months

By Iftikhar A. Khan

ISLAMABAD: Local government elections are set to be delayed for months in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa as the provincial government keeps dragging its feet in the name of amending the law.

Sources in the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) told *Dawn* that the term of local governments in KP had expired on Aug 28 this year and new elections were supposed to be held by Dec 27, but this had now become virtually impossible.

An official of the commission said that under Section 219 (4) of the KP's Local Government Act, 2017, the ECP had to conduct elections within 120 days after the expiry of the local bodies term, but it was still awaiting information from the government — a prerequisite for delimitation. He said these included official notifications of the proposed number of village and neighbourhood councils in each tehsil, and the limits of tehsil councils, along with category-wise number of reserved seats.

He said that around three months would be required for delimitation even after these issues were addressed while another around 45 days would be needed between announcement of the poll schedule and the poll date.

The official pointed out that the ECP called the first meeting with representatives of the KP government on March 5 — almost six months before the expiry of local bodies term in the province, and directed completion of all prerequisites for conduct of LG elections.

The commission specifically directed that whatever amendments required to be made in the act and rules be made as early as possible. Otherwise, the ECP shall not wait for the amendments and conduct the polls in accordance with the existing law.

The provincial government was asked to expedite the passage of the proposed bills before April 30 this year so that the ECP could go ahead with its duties. The KP government was also asked to prepare updated district maps to be used for delimitation.

The official said the second meeting with the provincial government was held on April 9. The ECP secretary reiterated that the commission would not deviate from the timelines provided by the law. The provincial government was again asked to take steps to get the law passed from the KP Assembly.

Independent group's Qalbe Hassan wins SCBA top slot

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: In a one-on-one contest, Syed Qalbe Hassan of the Independent group was elected on Thursday president of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) for the year 2019-20.

However, the slot of secretary was notched by Shamsher Rehman Malik of the Hamid Khanked Professional group.

As per unofficial results, Mr Hassan secured 1,581 votes against 950 bagged by his rival Shaaib Shaheen of the Professional group.

Both candidates for the presidential slot were from Islamabad since the top slot this year was reserved for the federal capital as per rotation policy.

Mr Hassan of the Independent group (famously known as the late Asma Jahangir group) had the backing of PML-N Lawyers Forum, Peoples Lawyers Forum and PML-Q lawyers' wing as well.

Pakistan Bar Council's member Ahsan Bhoon, Aram Nasir Tarar, Abid Saqi, former governor Sardar Latif Khan Khosa, Ali Ahmad Kurd and Khalid Ranjha were among main supporters of Mr Hassan.

In his victory speech, Mr Hassan vowed to fulfil all promises he had made to lawyers and to serve the community irrespective of any political biases. He thanked the voters for giving him the mandate.

As the results were announced at the Supreme Court's Lahore registry, supporters of the winning candidates burst into chants. They showered rose petals on the winners and danced to the beat of drums.

Mr Malik was elected secretary with 1,175 votes, while his rival Rana Shahzad Farooq got 1,125.

Mr Malik was a reporter as he lost by a year in last year election against Amatullah Chaudhry of the Independent group.

Ghulam Murtaza Chaudhry was elected vice president from Punjab, while counting on three more seats of vice presidents from other provinces and one seat each of additional secretary and finance secretary was in progress.

As many as 3,162 members exercised their right to vote in the polling held in all the four provinces. In Lahore, 981 cast their votes out of a total 1,299 members.

Polling stations were set up in Karachi, Quetta, Peshawar, Abbottabad, Lahore, Multan, Bahawalpur, Islamabad and other cities.

Former chief justice of Pakistan Tassaduq Hussain Jillani, Hamid Khan, retired Justice Nasira Iqbal and former provincial minister Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan were among the prominent members who cast their votes at the Supreme Court's Lahore registry.

Police took strict security measures outside the SC registry for the polling process.

However, in the federal capital, the polling station was set up at the Islamabad High Court instead of the Supreme Court building due to security measures adopted in the red zone following the Azadi march led by the Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl.

MAJOR ACCIDENTS SINCE JULY 2018

3 COLLISIONS

DECEMBER 18, 2018
16 children injured as a passenger train crashes into a van near Hasilpur, Punjab.

JUNE 20, 2019
Three people killed when a train collides with a cargo train at Malis Shah, near Hyderabad.

JULY 11, 2019
A train collides with a cargo train near Sadiqabad, killing at least 21 people and injuring over 100.

3 FIRE INCIDENTS

JUNE 16, 2019
Karachi-bound Jinnah Express train's dining car catches fire near Sahiwal, disrupts schedule for hours.

JULY 17, 2019
Fire erupts in a bogie of the Jinnah Express near Johanian in Khanewal district.

OCTOBER 31, 2019
Fire engulfs Tezgam Express near Rahim Yar Khan, killing 73 people after a gas cylinder is said to have exploded.

5 DERAILMENT

AUGUST 28, 2018
10 injured when a Karachi-bound train derails at Taba Tek Singh.

SEPTEMBER 16, 2018
Nine bogies of Peshawar-bound Khushal Khan Khattak Express derail near Attock. 20 passengers injured.

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018
A Peshawar-bound train derails in which 11 bogies overturn near Sehwan, Sindh.

DECEMBER 24, 2018
One killed, six injured in train derailment in Faisalabad.

JUNE 9, 2019
Twenty-three bogies of a Karachi-bound freight train derail in Sukkur.

Sohail Asrar

Minister faces flak over hasty explanation as train inferno leaves 73 passengers dead

Continued from Page 1

class coach due to short-circuiting and spread to the following economy coaches within no time.

He said he and some other passengers had noticed a smell similar to PVC burning well before the fire eruption and informed some PR staff moving in the coaches, but they did not care.

Train driver Mohammad Siddique said he noticed the fire at 6.20am (when the train was between Liaquatpur and Chasni Goth railway stations) and brought it to a halt in four minutes.

He said the burning coaches in the centre of the train were detached with the help of staff on board the train.

Rescue 1122 vehicles took 65 bodies and more than 40 injured initially to the Liaquatpur Civil Hospital. Rahim Yar Khan's district emergency officer Dr Abdus Sattar said they reached the site within 10 minutes of receiving the call. He said Rescue 1122 staff found some of the dead and dozens of injured, who leapt out of the train, in a stretch of two kilometres along the rail tracks.

He said staff and vehicles were mobilised from other districts as well, as over 100 ambulances and eight firefighting vehicles joined the operation. He said some women and children were also among the victims.

Later, 26 of the injured were shifted to the Sheikh Zayed Medical College Hospital, nine to Bahawal Victoria Hospital, Bahawalpur, and as many to Nishtar Hospital, Multan, by army helicopters.

Rahim Yar Khan chief executive officer of health Dr Sakhawat Randhawa said that only 15 dead bodies could be identified, adding that the rest would be identified after DNA test.

Liaquatpur Emergency Patient Welfare Society general secretary Raja Imtiaz told *Dawn* that he had counted 74 dead and 65 injured at the Liaquatpur hospital.

The burnt bogies were later brought to Chasni Goth and track was cleared for rail traffic within two hours of the fire.

The railways minister said Tablighi Jamaat's men were stopped from using gas cylinder by a train guard by but they switched on the stove once he left.

Talking to the media in Multan, Mr Rashid said Prime Minister Imran Khan had issued directive to constitute a committee to identify the people responsible for the tragedy. The committee would submit its report within 15 days.

"As far as the matter of my resignation is concerned I will talk about it on Sunday. It is our negligence that we allowed cylinders on the train. However, from now on we will not allow them to carry cylinders while travelling by train," he said.

He claimed that the number of railway accidents during his tenure was minimal, adding that he was thankful to the army for providing air ambulance for the immediate shifting of the injured to hospitals.

The minister said one Amir Husain got booked seats for Tablieghi Jamaat men from Karachi, Mirpurkhas, Nawabshah and Hyderabad.

"He was the emir of Jamaat but was not travelling and he provided us information regarding the passengers."

He said Rs1.5 million would be given as compensation to the family of each deceased and Rs300,000 to Rs500,000 to each injured, adding that the victims would get some compensation from prime minister's package as well.

Later, Mr Rashid visited Nishtar Hospital's burn unit where he inquired about the health of the injured.

Meanwhile, the passengers of Tezgam Express blocked the railway track soon after the train reached the Multan railway station after it was allowed to resume journey from Liaquatpur.

They shouted slogans against the government and the minister for what they called "telling a lie" that the fire erupted due to cylinder blast. They said the cause was short-circuiting.

Talking to *Dawn* in Nishtar Hospital, passenger Shahzad Abbas said he was a resident of Karachi and was going to Gujrat. He said he was in Bogie No. 12 and was awake when the incident took place.

"All of a sudden a wave of heat hit us. Everyone rushed to the door of the bogie. A thick cloud of smoke covered the bogie and I was unable to see. Instead of running towards the door where everyone was going, I preferred to jump from the window and when I was on the ground I saw two bogies on the back of our bogies under complete fire," he said.

Nine of the injured, including a woman, were shifted to the emergency ward of Bahawal Victoria Hospital.

The condition of two of them was serious.

Talking to *Dawn* at the BVH surgery ward, Imran Shahid, Obaidur Rehman and Shakeel said as their Bogie No.12 caught fire, they jumped out and received injuries. They said they did not know the cause of the fire but could only hear screams of the passengers.

According to them, several panicked passengers suffered injuries and died after they jumped out of windows of the train which was going at a high speed.

This is the second major train accident occurred in Rahim Yar Khan this year.

On July 11, 20 people lost their lives and 80 suffered injuries when a speeding passenger train rammed into a stationary freight train at the Walhar railway station.

It was explained later that the collision was caused when the passenger train by mistake diverted to a loop line where the freight train was parked.

There have been around 74 train accidents, including 20 involving freight trains, due to negligence of road users at unmanned level crossings since August 2018.

Majeed Gill also contributed to this report from Bahawalpur

SC to hold regular hearing in cases relating to GIDC

By Nasir Iqbal

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court has decided to hold regular hearing on a day-to-day basis in cases relating to the Gas Development Infrastructure Cess (GIDC) from next Thursday.

The decision was taken by a three-judge Supreme Court bench consisting of Justice Mushir Alam, Justice Faisal Arab and Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah when it resumed the hearing on Thursday. However, the proceedings were adjourned till next week on a request made by senior counsel Munir A. Malik.

Hooked through a video link from the Supreme Court's Karachi registry, Advocate Malik first offered his condolences on the demise of a relative of presiding judge Justice Alam and then requested the court to adjourn the proceedings till Tuesday next week in view of the annual elections of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA), saying he was embarrassed to make such a request.

Justice Alam, however, observed that he had specially come to the court despite his family commitments in view of the consideration that many counsel would have come to argue the matter.

"Is there any other difficulty to proceed with the case or is election the only reason?" Justice Alam asked.

Makhdoom Ali Khan, who is representing a number of CNG stations, stated that it was in the hands of the court no matter whatever decision was made.

When the court asked Attorney General (AG) Anwar Mansoor whether he had any objection if the proceedings were adjourned, he replied that it did not really matter whether the hearing was postponed or the court chose to proceed with the matter.

However, he made it clear that he would be presenting the government's stance in the cases relating to GIDC even if he was not present in the courtroom as someone would be taking notes for the government to explain the position.

The court, however, observed that it would not mention the SCBA elections as the reason for the adjournment of the case rather cite in its order personal reason of the counsel for the postponement of the case.

On Oct 22, the court had summoned all pending cases relating to GIDC from different high courts of the country and directed the lawyers pleading the cases of different clients to join the proceedings before the apex court if they chose so at the principal seat or join through video link.

On Sept 6, the federal government through the AG had furnished a request before the apex court for out-of-turn hearing of the pending GIDC cases after Prime Minister Imran Khan withdrew the GIDC (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019, and directed the AG to move an application for urgent hearing in the Supreme Court so that the matter could be decided at the earliest, strictly in accordance with the law and the Constitution.

The matter regarding GIDC gained attention when the present government promulgated a controversial ordinance with an offer to grant Rs210 billion financial amnesty to big businesses, including fertilizer, general industry, IPPs, generation companies, K-Electric and CNG sector.

A statement issued by the PM Office had conceded that from January 2012 till December 2018, the total amount stuck in the GIDC litigation had risen to Rs417bn. The government's application before the Supreme Court had stated that the cases relating to the GIDC Act 2015 involved huge sums of government revenue.

The matter had been pending since 2017 and petitions had been filed against the judgment passed by the Peshawar High Court upholding the vires of the law, the application contended. "Due to the fact that a huge quantum of government revenue is stuck up on account of the present cases, it is, therefore, prayed that the court may take up the cases out of turn," the application contended.

Drap admits drug prices were increased in violation of policy

By Ikram Junaidi

ISLAMABAD: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drap) admitted on Thursday that medicine prices were increased in violation of its own policy.

The revelation came during a meeting of a National Assembly's subcommittee on national health services (NHS) at Parliament House.

Drap officials gave the meeting a briefing on the registration of medicines, how to obtain licences for new medicines and the structure and financing of the authority. They also said that the laboratory testing and post-marketing surveillance of medicines are Drap's responsibility.

However, MNA Ramesh Lal from the PPP told the officials he had been hearing this information for a long time.

"I want to know what has happened in the last year," he said, adding: "As far as I am aware, during the last year the former minister and NHS secretary became the reason of irrecoverable loss to the health sector."

"The situation has [worsened to the extent] that the poor cannot even imagine buying medicines," he said.

One of the Drap officials then admitted that the prices of some medicines were increased by more than the limit permitted by drug pricing policy. But, he said, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on NHS Dr Zafar Mirza has taken up the issue and had the prices decreased.

"Although it is true that the prices of medicines were increased, it is also a fact that the prices were decreased as well," he said.

This April, then NHS minister Aamir Mehmood Kiani was removed and Dr Mirza appointed special assistant on health. There were rumours that Mr Kiani was removed because of the unprecedented increase in drug prices, but on one at the government level has confirmed this.

In May, Dr Mirza announced that the increase in medicine prices would not exceed 75pc. He said that although prices were increased by up to 400pc, Prime Minister Imran Khan directed the day he took charge – April 23 – that prices be decreased within 72 hours.

He said this led to deliberations and it was agreed that the maximum permitted increase would be 75pc.

Dr Mirza had said that the prices of 889 medicines were considered; the prices of 464 were increased and the prices of 395 were decreased. The rest remained the same.

Private schools to remain closed today

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Private schools extended their holiday to Friday because of the partial road blockades and uncertain situation in the wake of Azadi March.

However, Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) said all public sector schools and colleges would remain open. Meanwhile, attendance remained low in government schools, particularly in urban areas.

Quaid-i-Azam University, National University of Modern Languages (Numl), Air University, Bahria University, Comsats University and the National University of Science and Technology have already announced closure on Friday.

In Rawalpindi, the district administration asked all private and government educational institutions to open on Friday.

However, Metro Bus Service between Rawalpindi and Islamabad will remain closed.

Twin cities quiet as residents brace for Azadi March's arrival

Many people opted to stay home and markets in the garrison city saw few customers despite reopening after two-day strike

By Munawar Azeem & Aamir Yasin

PML-N Secretary General Ahsan Iqbal addresses JUI-F workers at the public meeting near Peshawar Mor on Thursday — Photo by Tanveer Shahzad

ISLAMABAD: Even though Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) leaders and Azadi March participants remained in Gujar Khan for most of Thursday, life in the capital was paralysed by the preparations police have made for the march.

With many of the city's main arteries and intersections sealed by shipping containers, barricades and barbed wire, many residents were forced to stay at home.

The police have closed off all possible routes leading to the Red Zone, despite the JUI-F's assurance that the march would not head towards that area.

The Red Zone houses various sensitive installations, including Parliament House, Prime Minister House, the Presidency, Supreme Court and the Diplomatic Enclave.

The Azadi March has been given a venue near Peshawar Mor and adjacent to Kashmir Highway but the police and administration were concerned that the Azadi March may turn towards the Red Zone instead.

As a result, residents had difficulty moving around the city. Passenger vehicles such as vans and pick-up trucks appeared to have disappeared from the roads, and many people were seen trying to hitch rides on motorcycles and other vehicles.

Many people simply chose to stay at home instead, giving the city a near deserted look. Few people could be seen shopping in markets.

Because many roads were sealed, there was some traffic congestion on the routes people took on the way home from work. The police have also blocked off the metro bus route by plugging the underpass in the Red Zone with containers. The bus service was suspended and will likely remain so on Friday (today).

Police officials told *Dawn* that the metro bus route was sealed because the march participants could have used it to access the Red Zone. They said the police were blocking all the possible routes and roads that lead to the Red Zone.

Capital administration officials said JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman and other leaders had expressed reservations that the city would be sealed even though they had reached an agreement with the government regarding the march.

As a result, a delegation from the administration that included the deputy commissioners additional and general as well as police officers met them and led a JUI-F delegation to the capital via the route chosen for them.

According to organisers of the march, JUI-F, Awami National Party, Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party and PML-N workers and supporters have been arriving at the venue from all over the country all day.

They said the venue consists of two grounds, one that measures around 200 metres and the other 300 metres.

They are establishing some 2,000 toilets in different parts of the venue, and plastic sheets are being used to make cabins and for drainage.

The march consists of more than 30,000 participants, according to police officers watching their movement, travelling in 1,342 vehicles. A container and a crane are also in the march with Mr Rehman and 15 other JUI-F leaders travelling in the container.

Rawalpindi

Although businesses finally reopened on Thursday after a two-day traders' strike in Rawalpindi, many people chose to stay home because of the presence of the Azadi March some 45 kilometres away in Gujar Khan as well as confusion over the route the procession would take on its way to Islamabad.

It was unclear whether the marchers would pass through downtown Rawalpindi on the way to their public meeting in Islamabad.

The district administration had closed down all educational institutions and suspended the metro bus service between the twin cities as well.

Saddar, Raja Bazaar and other commercial areas were unusually quiet even though traders opened up their stores and vendors were selling fruits, sunglasses, caps, secondhand clothing and other items on carts.

But in other parts of the city, such as the entrance to Raja Bazaar from City Saddar Road, life continued more or less as normal. People could be seen walking through the markets, visiting the District Headquarters Hospital and shopping at the fruit and vegetable market.

Uncertainty was palpable, however, on the 2km patch of Murree Road from Faizabad to Shamsabad and Soan River Bridge to the Fauji Foundation Hospital.

Police and shipping containers could be seen over the bridge on Soan River when moving towards Jhelum Road past the district courts. There were also barriers in place towards Islamabad through Shamsabad in front of the public park, and law enforcement officials and containers could be seen deployed between Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

The PML-N and PPP did not establish camps on Murree Road on Thursday morning to welcome JUI-F participants, who spent the night 45km away from Rawalpindi, because of confusion over whether they would pass through the city.

Political workers began hanging banners and set up camps in the afternoon. The PPP camp is at Liaquat Bagh and PML-N's is at Shamsabad Public Park. Local leaders visited the camps in the evening.

Detention of loaded containers a violation of law: IHC

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday directed the federal government not to obstruct lawful business of traders for maintaining public order during the Azadi march.

Chief Justice Athar Minallah issued the direction after taking up a petition filed by a private goods transport company against detaining of its containers by block roads.

He observed: "The state can only control and regulate trade for the purpose and object of ensuring safety, peace, health and good moral of public."

The court added: "There is no regulation nor any restriction imposed by law that citizens who are engaged in lawful business can be obstructed to carry on their business or empowers the authorities to detain their containers in which commercial goods are being transported for the purpose of maintaining public order."

Justice Minallah disposed of the petition with the observation that "in case the transportation of goods in containers by the petitioner company or any other trader have been obstructed or interfered with, they would be at liberty to approach the competent authorities for seeking compensation."

The court also asked the federal government to nominate an authorised officer to receive complaints from traders who may have been affected on account of their fundamental right guaranteed under Article 18 of the Constitution having been violated.

Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Hamza Shafqaat informed the court in an undertaking that "no container loaded with commercial goods has been detained or obstructed within Islamabad Capital Territory."

He said the federal government had allocated Rs60 million for maintaining public order during the Azadi march and assured the court that the traders would be compensated for detaining the containers. Justice Minallah appreciated the deputy commissioner and remarked that provincial governments should follow the same as well.

The chief justice observed that detention of containers loaded with commercial goods without the consent of the owners was a violation of Article 18 of the Constitution.

The court noted that "freedom of trade, business or profession is a right guaranteed under Article 18 of the Constitution.

"The constitutional provision provides that subject to such qualifications, if any, as may be prescribed by law, every citizen shall have the right to enter upon any lawful profession or occupation, and to conduct any lawful trade or business."—Malik Asad

PIA, IIA officials suspended

By Mohammad Asghar

RAWALPINDI: The Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) station manager, assistant station manager and deputy shift manager at Islamabad International Airport (IIA) and the airport manager and two duty terminal managers were suspended and departmental inquiries were launched against them on Thursday.

The suspensions came after orders from Prime Minister Imran Khan.

According to sources, the Airport Security Force (ASF) assistant sub-inspector suspected of manhandling passengers was also removed and an inquiry against him was completed.

Sources said two separate inquiries have been conducted and reports sent to ASF Headquarters for further directives. The inquiry report contained CCTV images and interviews of security staff and other agencies' officials.

"The ASF official may face punishment as he is being tried under the Army Act 1952, because his actions cannot be justified," a security official said, adding that the issue was not reported to higher authorities at the time because it was settled between passengers and security staff.

SUNDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS:

EOS

PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIETY, CULTURE, IDEAS.

COVER: WHAT TIKTOK TELLS US ABOUT PAKISTAN
The popular social media app has taken the world of millions of young Pakistanis by storm. It gives many of them, especially those usually shut out of mainstream media, a platform to express themselves. But more importantly, it offers them a chance to be seen

MEDIA: WHO WILL HAVE THE LAST LAUGH?
The outrage directed at one political cartoon showcases how satirical caricatures have always ruffled the feathers of the powerful

SOCIETY: THE PLIGHT OF THE PACHYDERM
Despite inflicting cruelty on elephants in the past, Pakistan wants to order 10 more for its zoos

BOOKS & AUTHORS: Shaharyar Shaikh's *Call Me Al: The Hero's No-Hit Journey*, Mohammad Sheeraz Durrii's *Sana* and Miyamoto Musashi and the Nihonse of Martial Arts. ALSO: Syed Mamanul Haq on Ahmad Faraz

PLUS: Nadeem F Paracha on The Mercush Complex, Karachi Biennale's Elite Ethos, The Burden of Captivity, The Art of Water, Irfan Hussain on Eating Game, Zahrah Nasir's Gardening, Austin Agro and Static Cling

ICON

INSIGHT INTO ENTERTAINMENT, PERFORMING ARTS, STYLE, CELEBRITY.

STYLE: FASHION'S FADING DREAMS
Pakistan Fashion Week's winter edition showed that fashion's dreams have been crushed by a deluge of sub-par collections. What went wrong?

SPOTLIGHT: REANIMATING ANIMATION IN PAKISTAN
Domestically produced animated films do better than live action features. So why are there no Pakistani animated films releasing in 2019?

PLUS: Reviews of *Malificent: Mistress of Evil*, *Zindi* and *Kaaf Kangana*, The Grapevine, The Take and Paheli Charts.

DAWN

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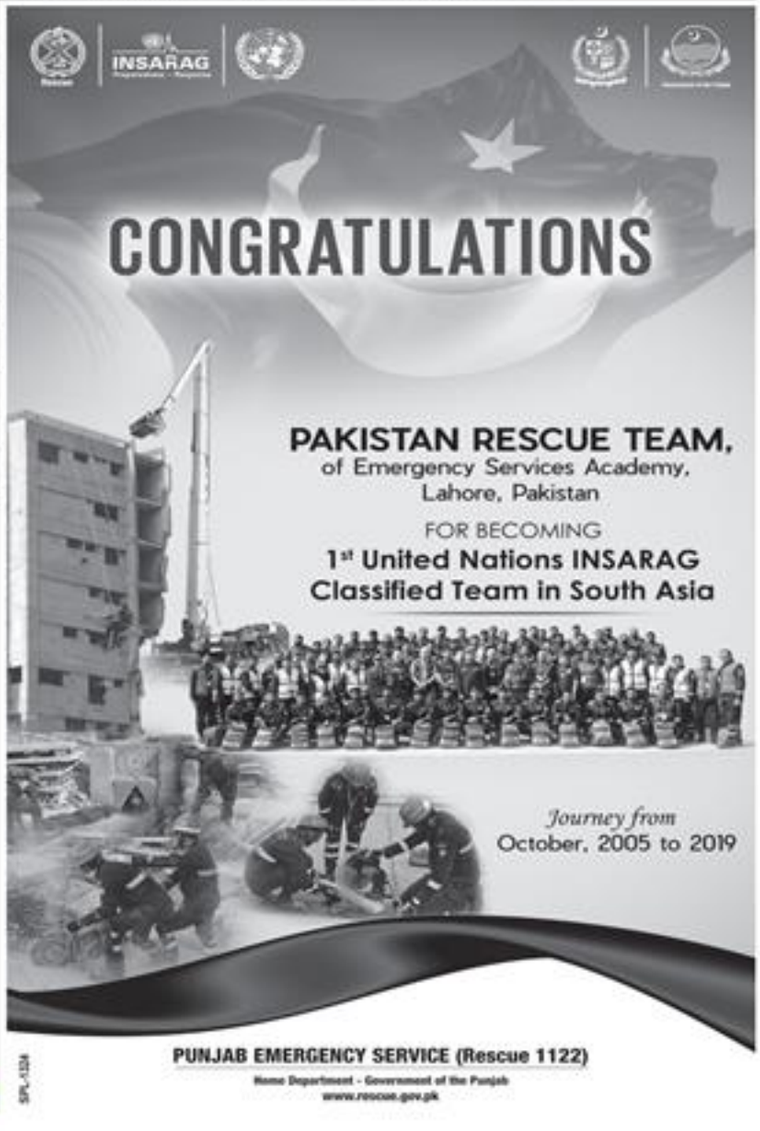

Eight ordinances promulgated

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday promulgated eight ordinances which had already been approved by the federal cabinet at its last meeting.

The promulgated ordinances are related to the judiciary and one specifically concerning about amending the NAB Ordinance which could affect high-profile political prisoners in the country.

Law Minister Barrister Farogh Naseem and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan had recently blamed the opposition parties for compelling the government to opt for legislations through ordinances.

The law minister had termed it a defining moment for Pakistan, saying that the cabinet which met under Prime Minister Imran Khan had approved eight laws of "public interest".

The promulgated ordinances included the Letter of Administration and Succession Certificates Ordinance, 2019; the Enforcement of Women's Property Rights Ordinance, 2019; the Benami Transaction (Prohibition) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019; the Superior Courts (Court Dress and Mode of Address) Order (Repeal) Ordinance, 2019; the National Accountability (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019; the Legal Aid and Justice Authority Ordinance, 2019 and the Whistle Blowers Act.

The most significant ordinance which got the cabinet's nod was the one seeking an amendment to the National Accountability Ordinance under which those facing charges of corruption worth Rs50 million or more would only be entitled to be kept in "C-Class" prisons.

The minister had refuted the impression that the said ordinance was person-specific and was being introduced only to directly target the top leaders of the two opposition parties who were currently under NAB custody.

The government believed that the Criminal Procedure Code would ensure speedy and expeditious justice for the masses who had been enduring lawsuits in civil courts for years.

Under another ordinance, the government had provided protection to the whistleblowers who would point out corruption in any department. Besides getting protection, the law minister said, the whistleblowers would also get 20 per cent of the amount which would be recovered from culprits.

The Letter of Administration and Succession Certificates Ordinance provided a mechanism for issuance of succession certificates by the National Database and Registration Authority. The Enforcement of Women's Property Rights Ordinance will guarantee right of ownership to women in inheritance. The bill aims at preventing the family from denying this right to women through "coercion, fraud, fabrication, forgery and cheating".

The Legal Aid and Justice Authority Ordinance seeks establishment of a legal and institutional framework to promote access to justice by providing affordable, accessible, sustainable, credible and accountable legal aid, financial or other services to the poor and the vulnerable section of society in criminal matters.

The bill gives priority to disadvantaged women and children, especially in matters of sexual offences.

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Interior Ijaz Ahmad Shah shows a copy of the agreement reached between the administration and the Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl for the Azadi march during a press conference on Thursday. He was accompanied by Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Dr Firdous Ashiq Awan.—Tanveer Shahzad / White Star

After four-day journey

Continued from Page 1

government had taken a "risk" by allowing Azadi marchers to proceed to Islamabad. He, however, hoped that the participants of the march would not spoil peace of the city and would remain stick to the agreement.

Mr Khattak told journalists that the government had not given any timeline for the proposed sit-in and the protesters were free to sit at their camp as long as they want. He said three meetings between the government and Rehbar committee had taken place in which the opposition had chosen Peshawar Mor as the venue of the sit-in after two other places — Fatrabad and D-Chowk near Parliament House — were rejected by the opposition and the government, respectively.

Before arrival of the main Azadi march, the ANP motor rally reached Islamabad with at least 5,000 participants and the venue of the opposition's main camp, where JUI-F workers had already encamped, became crowded. On this occasion some leaders of JUI-F and the ANP addressed the protesters, demanding resignation of Railway Minister Sheikh Rashid for a horrible fire accident in a train causing death of over 70 people.

Earlier, addressing a large gathering in Gujar Khan, Maulana Fazl reiterated that Azadi march included a march, a jalsa (public gathering) as well as a sit-in and urged his party workers to remain peaceful and united. Vowing that the march would culminate in removal of the rulers, he reiterated that the march was peaceful and would remain peaceful and warned his workers that tonight (Thursday night) efforts would be made to make them violent.

The JUI-F chief also expressed grief over the train accident in Rahim Yar Khan and prayed for the victims.

Over 1,000 vans and buses, trucks, motorcycles carrying the marchers mostly from Balochistan, Sindh and southern Punjab took part in the march.

Earlier in the morning, SAPM Dr Awan said that the opposition's narrative was lifeless and baseless and the protesters coming to Islamabad should not do anything damaging to the national security and image of Pakistan.

Addressing a press conference along with Interior Minister Shah, she said that the government had the responsibility to provide security to 7,000 members of the diplomatic corps and staff belonging to different embassies and international organisations based in Islamabad. "The United Nations had declared Islamabad a non-family station after the Marriot hotel bomb attack in 2008. However, due to the efforts of Prime Minister Imran Khan, the capital was again declared a family station in 2019," she said.

Maulana Fazl had "embarked on an adventure", she said and hoped that it would end peacefully.

"The government has accepted the opposition's right to protest and it would fulfil its commitments in this regard," she said.

Answering to a question, the interior minister said the resignation of Prime Minister Khan was out of question.

He said that the government would facilitate the people who would gather in Islamabad, but nobody would be allowed to challenge writ of the State.

In reply to a question, he said the name of former prime minister Nawaz Sharif was not on the Exit Control List, hinting that he could go abroad for medical treatment. "The prime minister has clearly instructed his party leaders not to say anything about the health of others (Sharif's). "There would be no politics on the health of others."

Some of the JUI-I workers at the last destination of Azadi march near Peshawar Mor told *Dawn* that they were prepared to stay there even for two months. "We have clothes to stay here for two months or more if instructed by Maulana Fazlur Rehman.

Earlier, when Azadi march reached Koring Bridge at Islamabad Expressway, two marchers lost their life after they fell down from the bridge. Four other marchers received injuries.

Kalhe Ali from Islamabad and our correspondent from Gujar Khan also contributed to this report

33 journalists killed in Pakistan in past six years: report

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: At least 33 journalists were murdered for their journalism work in Pakistan during the past six years, including seven in the past one year (November 2018 to October 2019) alone, according to Freedom Network.

The new report titled '100% Impunity for Killers, 0% Justice for Pakistan's Murdered Journalists: Crime and Punishment in Pakistan's Journalism World' issued a 'Pakistan Impunity Scorecard' which reveals frightening statistics.

The report is released ahead of the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists observed by the United Nations on Nov 2 every year.

According to the Pakistan Impunity Scorecard, a total of 32 FIRs were registered for the murder of 33 journalists during the period 2013-19, of which police could file challan (charge-sheet) in only 20 cases — or in 60 per cent of cases. Out of 33 cases, the courts declared only 20 cases fit for trial (60pc) of which prosecution and trial was completed in only six cases — only 18pc.

In these six cases, the killer was convicted in just one case but escaped punishment after successfully overturning the conviction at the appeal stage after which the family of the murdered journalist abandoned its pursuit for justice for lack of resources.

The above statistics include the cases of seven journalists murdered in Pakistan in the past one year (between November 2018 and October 2019). According to the report, FIRs were registered in all seven cases, but charge-sheet was filed by the police in only four cases (57pc).

In short, none of these seven cases reached the critical stage where the courts could hand a verdict and provide justice.

According to Freedom Network, the impunity enjoyed by the killers of journalists in Pakistan is one of the highest in the world.

The organisation working for defending press freedom and freedom of expression said its report is based on a special impunity index developed by it and by examining the FIRs registered in the murder of journalists and interviews with the families, lawyers and colleagues of the murdered journalists revealing the following startling findings.

Meanwhile, International Press Institute (IPI) in a statement released in connection with the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists said that democracies around the world were failing to protect journalists and investigate killings and crimes against them.

According to the Vienna-based IPI's Death Watch, as many as 40 journalists lost their lives over the last year. Of these, 25 were lost their lives in targeted attacks in retaliation for their work, frequently in response to reports exposing corruption or the activities of crime syndicates. Eight journalists died while covering conflicts in Afghanistan, Syria and Yemen and one was killed covering civil unrest.

Six journalists died while on assignment, two in Somalia and one each in Brazil, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. The majority of targeted killings took place in the Americas, where 18 journalists were killed.

An analysis of the Death Watch data shows that over the years the majority of the targeted killings have taken place in democracies and impunity for such crimes remains high in these countries.

Pakistan, China reject bifurcation

Continued from Page 1

imposed on the Kashmiris through "the barrel of gun".

It recalled that India had reinforced its troops deployment in the world's most militarised zone, taking their numbers to over 900,000 and imposed a lockdown on the occupied valley with curfews, communication blockade and arrests of thousands of political leaders and civil society members to suppress opposition to its actions by the local population.

Most of these restrictions remain in place despite passage of nearly three months.

"An iron curtain remains in place on more than eight million Kashmiri people, snapping their communications with the outside world. Curfew remains imposed and movement of people restricted. Many people, especially women and children, are being continuously abused and tortured by Indian occupation forces," the FO said.

Rejecting Indian contention that Kashmir-related moves were its internal matter, the FO said that "the illegal and unilateral changes effected by India are in no way an internal matter as the Jammu and Kashmir dispute remains on the agenda of the Security Council". It said the intention behind the India's Kashmir related moves was neither development of the region nor welfare of the Kashmiri people, but they were for altering the demographic structure of the Muslim majority region in pursuance of the extremist "Hindutva" ideology.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang, in a news briefing in Beijing, said the newly established Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh included some of the Chinese territory. "China deplores and firmly opposes this. India is challenging China's sovereign rights and interests by unilaterally revising domestic law and administrative division. This is illegal, null and void. It will neither change the fact that the relevant region is under China's actual control nor produce any effect," he added. He said China was urging India to respect the former's territorial sovereignty, abide by bilateral agreements and safeguard peace and tranquility in the border region with concrete actions to create conditions for a proper settlement of the border issue with China.

Prices of three petroleum products raised

Continued from Page 1

October, showing an increase of 0.2 per cent (27 paisa). Likewise, the ex-depot price of petrol has jumped to Rs114.24 per litre from the existing rate of Rs113.24 per litre, up by 0.88pc (Re1).

On the other hand, the ex-depot price of LDO has been fixed at Rs85.33 per litre, instead of the existing rate of Rs91.89 per litre, showing a reduction of 7.13pc or Rs6.56. Similarly, the ex-depot price of kerosene has risen to Rs97.18 per litre from Rs99.57 per litre, down by 2.4pc (Rs2.39).

Besides, the price of LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) has also been increased by Rs20 per 15kg domestic cylinder to Rs3,495 from the existing rate of Rs3,475.

In recent months, the government has already increased general sales tax (GST) on all petroleum products to the standard rate of 17pc to generate additional revenue. Until January this year, the government was charging 0.5pc GST on LDO, 2pc on kerosene, 5pc on petrol and 13pc on HSD.

Besides the 17pc GST, the government has more than doubled the rate of petroleum levy on HSD in recent months, to Rs21 per litre from Rs8 per litre, while levy on petrol has also been increased by 50pc to Rs17.20 per litre from Rs10 per litre. The levy on kerosene oil and LDO is currently being charged at the rate of about Rs5 per litre.

Over the last few months, the government has started increasing petroleum levy rates to partially recoup a major revenue shortfall faced by the Federal Board of Revenue in the first quarter of the current fiscal. The levy remains in the federal kitty unlike GST that goes to the divisible pool taxes, enabling the provinces to acquire about 57pc share.

Petrol and HSD are two major products that generate most of revenue for the government because of their massive and yet growing consumption. Total HSD sales are touching 800,000 tonnes per month against monthly consumption of around 700,000 tonnes of petrol. The sales of kerosene and LDO are generally less than 30,000 tonnes per month.

Last month, the government had kept the petroleum prices unchanged to earn windfall revenue of over Rs4.5 billion despite up to 2.6pc cut worked out by Ogra for October. The government had instead increased the petroleum levy on HSD and petrol.

NP never compromised on ideology, says Malik

By Behram Baloch

GWADAR: Former chief minister and National Party president Dr Abdul Malik Baloch has claimed that after the ouster of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz government in Balochistan his party was offered to establish government in the province, but its leadership refused as it never compromised on its ideology.

Speaking at a public meeting in Turbat on Thursday, he said that his party had also received several offers during the Musharraf regime to form its government, but it had refused to compromise on the rights of Baloch people.

"In 2008 and even in 2018 the party was asked to make a compromise on some issues, but instead of becoming a part of undemocratic moves it opted for the supremacy of parliament and democracy," he added. Mr Baloch said some incumbent ministers and members of the Balochistan Assembly received favours for supporting the no-confidence motion against former chief minister Sanaullah Zehri, "but the National Party, instead of accepting personal benefits, safeguarded the rights of people".

He criticised the federal government for its decision to establish the National Coastal Development Authority and termed it another step to steal Balochistan's rights.

The federal government had also refused to include development projects in its Public Sector Development Programme, the former chief minister claimed.

Alyani vows to protect rights of minorities

QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Jam Kamal Alyani has said that his government is taking measures for protection of minorities' rights and for their welfare.

During a meeting with Commission for Protection of the Minorities' Rights chairman Dr Shoaib Suddle on Wednesday, he said that a surveillance system for protection of the minority communities' worship places was being developed under which CCTV cameras and walkthrough gates would be installed.—Staff Correspondent

EXTENSION IN DATE

With reference to PRQ No. 4435-S-19 dated 06/09/2019 advertised in leading Newspaper Mashriq for the procurement of Food Items and Medicines. Whereas, Food Items procurement on dated 24/09/2019 had been completed accordingly. But, Medicines tender (TS1630276) has been postponed owing to non-availability of Technical Expert/Member from Government of Balochistan, Health Department. Meanwhile, on the recommendation of Departmental Purchase Committee, it is notified that the tender submission date for Medicines has been extended from 24/09/2019 to 13/11/2019 respectively. Other terms and conditions shall remain the same. Interested Bidders are requested to submit their bids before 11 a.m. on 13/11/2019. The Medicines tender will be opened at 12 p.m. on the same day in the Office of the Secretary, Social Welfare & Special Education, Department Civil Secretariat Block No. 14, Quetta.

Administrator, Detoxification & Rehabilitation Complex for Drug Addicts, Quetta

PRQ No. 1007/31-10-19

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The date of pre-bid meeting of EOI having PID No 1852/19 published in the press on 06-10-2019 and uploaded on PPRA website have been extended.

The meeting will be held on **07-11-2019** at **11:00 AM** instead of **31-10-2019**. The rest of the terms and conditions will remain the same.

ZAKIR ULLAH KHAN
ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL (P)
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL PAKISTAN POST
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MINISTRY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & TELECOMMUNICATION
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DIGITAL PAKISTAN

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ECAC intends to register individual, association of persons and audit companies that can be engaged to conduct information security audit of Digital Certificate Service Providers facilities under the Electronic Certification Accreditation Council Regulations, Information Security Auditors Registration Regulations (ISAR), 2008 (S.R.O. 496(I)/2008).

- Interested individual auditors should have minimum qualification of Bachelor degree in Computer Science. Post qualification in Computer Science and Certificate in CISA and knowledge of ISO Standards 27001, 27002, 27005 & 21188. Interested companies and interested partnership concerns may apply in accordance with the aforementioned Regulations.

Duly filled forms with all requisite documents along with Application Fee @ Rs.10,000/- may also be sent through email at **info@ecac.org.pk** in addition to hard copies to be sent at given address within a period of one month after publication of this advertisement.

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BEFORE: Mr. Muhammad Saad Qureshi (Judge), Banking Court No. III, at Karachi Block No. 09, Pakistan Secretariat, Near Passport Office, Saddar, Karachi Suit No. 166 of 2019 Al-Baraka Bank (Pakistan) Limited Al-Baraka House, 162 Bangalore Town main Shahrahe Faisal Karachi ... Plaintiff Versus Saad Ullah Khan S/o Mohammad Ibrahim Khan R/o House No. 91/II, Khayaban Amin Khurshid Phase-VI, DHA, Karachi.... Defendants To, the above named Defendants Whereas the Plaintiff above named has instituted a Suit against you under the Financial Institutions (Recovery of Finances) Ordinance 2001 for Rs. 12,273,049/- along with cost of funds and sale of mortgaged property and other relief(s) etc. balance of principle and markup due to you, you are therefore hereby summoned to obtain leave from the Court within 30 days from the service hereof to appear and defend the suit, and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you, to default whereof the plaintiff will be entitled at any time after the expiration of such 30 days to obtain a decree for any sum not exceeding the sum of Rs. 12,273,049/- and sum of Rs. (not yet determined) for costs together with such markup and cost of fund, if any, from the date of institution of the suit as the Court may order. Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the Court supported by affidavit or declaration showing that there is a defence to the suit on the merits, or that it is reasonable that you should be allowed to appear in the suit. Matter is fixed on 10th day of December 2019 at 9.00 A.M before the Banking Court-III, Karachi. Given under my Hand and seal of the court this 09th day of Oct 2019. By Order Reader Banking Court No. III Karachi (1072/985/164)

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

KARACHI

IT is to inform the general public that **Mr. Zahid Hussain Awan** Son of **Nabi Bux Awan** having the following property in DHA Karachi has expired on 16 December 2010, a. House No. 34/1, Lane No. 14, Phase-VII, Defence Officers Housing Authority Karachi admeasuring 1000 square yards (plotted). His following legal heirs have applied for transfer of the above plot in their names: 1. Mrs. Yasmeen Zahid, Widow, 2. Mrs. Eyum Waqar Awan, Daughter, 3. Mr. Rahim Bux Awan, Brother, 4. Ms. Mukhtar Begum, Sister, 5. Ms. Shahida Perveen Awan, Sister, 6. Ms. Nighat Sultana Awan, Sister. Anyone having any claim/objection should notify Director Transfer & Record DHA Karachi in writing within 15 days after which no claim / objection shall be entertained by this authority. (1102256/762)

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KARACHI

Friday November 1, 2019

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(1067/8/9/564)

M/S. Al-Rahim Textile Industries have agreed to sell, transfer, convey and assign to one or our clients an immovable property viz a Plot of Land bearing No. A-1/66, measuring 36.0 acres, Survey Sheet No. 35-P/1-35-L/13, together with construction standing thereon together with amenities of electric, water and conservancy lines, sewerage lines and other communication lines and connections appurtenant thereto situated at SITE Area, Nooriabad free from all encumbrances, liens, charges, disputes, defect of title, litigations, mortgages, claims, and legal demands and with vacant possession. Any individual, person, company, organization, financial institution, bank, authority, Government / Semi Government department having any objection and/or claim against the said property or said sale may notify its claim / objection supported by documentary evidence by Registered A/D Post and by Courier Service to the Secretary, Sindh Industrial Trading Estate Limited (SITE), Habib Bank Chowrangi, Manghopir Road, Karachi, as well as to the undersigned within seven days, failing which, claim and/or objection, if any, shall be deemed to have been waived and our client will complete the sale in all respect. **OSMAN ISSABHAI MEMON & COMPANY ADVOCATES** 4-National Bank of Pakistan Bldg, near Dena High, M.A.Jinnah Road Karachi (1102256/1477)

OUR client has contracted to Purchase Flat No. 5, 2nd Floor, 1673 square feet (Approx) Plot No. 4-E, Bader Commercial Street No. 9-A, Phase-VI Ext, DHA, Karachi, from Faheem Raza S/o Mr. Raza Mohammad Shaikh, CNIC No. 42000-8636222-9, through his legal and lawful attorney Mr. Muhammad Zia Uddin S/o Mr. Riaz ul Haq, CNIC No. 42201-1080212-1, resident of Karachi, through Mr. Muhammad Ahmed S/o Mr. Muhammad Yousuf, CNIC No. 42301-9676080-7 free from all dues, claims, etc. Any person / bank / authority having any claim / objection should notify to us and Sub Registrar-I, Clifton Town Karachi, within 07 days. Other wise transaction will be completed in favour of our client. M/s. Hazir Associates, Faraz Khan Cell # 0321-9221599 (1006257/1453)

OUR client has agreed to Purchase ground Floor Shop of 3400 square feet at Elite Towers, Plot C-17 Federal B Area Block-19 Karachi from Mr. Saleem Muhammad Gagia CNIC 42201-4432301-3 and Mr. Sohail Mukdi CNIC 42201-1687560-7 of Karachi. Any person, bank, authority having any claim, right, lien or any objection whatsoever should notify to us and to Sub-Registrar Office of Federal area along with evidence within seven days of this notice failing which the sale transaction, transfer / mutation of this property shall be completed in favour of our client. Imran estate 33/3 Dahi Co-operative Housing Society Karachi (1102256/1067)

OUR client has contracted to Purchase Plot No. 108/I Commercial Avenue Phase-IV measuring 300 yards DHA Karachi from Mr. Muhammad Naeem S/o Abdul Wahid CNIC 42301-0946382-7 R/o Karachi any person / bank / authority having any claim / objection should notify us and Administrator DHA Karachi within 7 days of this publication after that no claim will be entertained and transaction shall be completed. **BILLA ENTERPRISES** 0321-2536177, 0300-2323120. (1005256/946)

OUR client has contracted to Purchase Plot No. 141-C, Al-Murtaza Commercial Lane-2 measuring 200 yards Phase-VII, DHA, Karachi from (i) Mr. Umair Ashraf S/o. Ashraf holding CNIC No. 42201-3645247-7 (ii) Mr. Ashraf S/o H.A. Sattar (Late) holding CNIC No. 42201-2537652-3 both R/o Karachi free from all liens, disputes, claims etc. Any person(s) having any claim or any objection should notify us & Administrator DHA Karachi within (7) Seven days from the date hereof failing which any claim shall be deemed to have been waived & the transaction shall be completed in favour of our client. Valani Law Associates Advocates & Legal Consultants Office No. 4, Shamali Terrace Nishtar Road Garden East, Karachi. (1006257/1165)

OUR client has contracted to purchase Shop No. 4, located on ground floor measuring 460 square feet building on Plot No. B-C, Sehar Lane No. 5, Phase-VII DHA Karachi, from Mr. Muhammad Abid S/o Mr. Muhammad Hashim CNIC # 34400-2376038-7 resident of Quetta, free from all dues claims mortgages and objection whatsoever any person/ bank / authority having any claim objection should notify us and Sub-Registrar-I Clifton Town Karachi, within seven days of this publication. After that no claim will be entertained and transaction shall be completed in favour of our client. **HAIDER ESTATE** 0300-5552914 (1014256/756)

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CAVALRY GROUND, LAHORE CANTT 3 KANAL RESIDENTIAL CORNER PLOT FOR SALE (1500SQ.YDS), QUIET STREET. Contact: Rahat Malik 0304-9588771, (+923-260-0117 (WhatsApp) rahatmalik103@hotmail.com (25723386762).

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DAWN the complete newspaper

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS & MOTORWAY POLICE SOUTH ZONE

NOTICE FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION OF FIRMS

NHMP South Zone invites well reputed, active tax payer, GST registered and well experienced firms for procurement of services (event management for Road safety activities), supply of Miscellaneous / General items and for following offices of this zone from financial year 2019-20 to 2021-22.

S #	OFFICES / SECTORS
01	DIG Office, South Zone Karachi
02	Sector - III Jamshoro, Hyderabad
03	Sector - II Sakrand, Nawabshah
04	Sector - I Sukkur
05	Sector - N5 Sehwan

TERMS & CONDITIONS FOR BIDDERS

a) There would be separate bidding for each mentioned office. Interested firms can submit their bids either for all offices or any one office and bidder must mention office name (as given in table) on its bid while dropping in box.

b) Draft specifications, standards, terms and conditions for firms are mentioned in pre-qualification documents which can be obtained @ Rs. 1000/- Non-Refundable in shape of pay order / bank draft in the name of DDO NHMP N-5 South Zone. Pre-qualification documents will be issued from the Office of the Deputy Inspector General of Police NHMP, N-5 South, located at Northern Bypass Loop 24-KM, main Super Highway (M-9), opposite Al-Habib Restaurant, Karachi, only during office hours: 0800 to 1600. No tender documents will be issued on the date of opening of tenders i.e. 21-11-2019.

c) Notice is also available on Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) website (www.ppra.org.pk) as well as on NHMP website (www.nhmp.gov.pk).

d) Offers for "pre-qualification bids" shall be dropped in the box, by 1030 hours on 21-11-2019, which will be opened in the presence of representatives of firms at 1100 hours on same day at DIG NHMP N-5 South Zone Office, at Northern Bypass Loop 24-KM, main Super Highway (M-9), opposite Al-Habib Restaurant, Karachi.

e) In case of any holiday / law-and-order situation / mishaps the opening date will be on next working day on same timings.

(Masroor Alam Kolachi), PSP
Deputy Inspector General of Police

PID (I) 2324/19

PAKISTAN RAILWAYS

Divisional Office, Sukkur

RHQ-268

TENDER NOTICE

Tender are invited by the Divisional Superintendent, Pakistan Railways, Sukkur for "Establishment of Pharmacy at Rohri Station" from the interested parties for sale of medicine. The license and registration certificate (from pharmacy council) of the person/party is a prerequisite.

- Security Money of Rs. 10,000/- in shape of CDR/Pay Order in the name of Divisional Accounts Office, Pakistan Railways, Sukkur issued by any schedule bank, verified copy of CNIC, character certificate, experience certificate issued by Pharmacy Council must be attached with Application Form.
- Initial period of contract will be for two years and further extendable for 3rd year on 15% increase rate, subject to satisfactory performance and on sole discretion of Pakistan Railways.
- Application Form may be obtained from the date of advertisement upto **14-11-2019** during office hours.
- Last date of submission of application will be **15-11-2019** upto **11:00 hours**. Bids will be opened after half an hour for technical evaluation. The time of reception of financial proposal will be communicated to the qualified applicants.
- Application forms can be received (Containing Technical Evaluation Criteria) from commercial branch DS Office, Sukkur, on payment of Rs. 1,000/- (Non-refundable) deposited through Misc Receipt (MR) issued by any Pakistan Railways Booking Office.
- Pharmacy will be constructed by the successful bidder on his own cost as per approved site plan of Pakistan Railways.

Note: Pakistan Railways may reject all bids at any time prior to acceptance of bid. However grounds of rejection may be communicated upon request of the bidders.

(Abid Qamar Shaikh)
Divisional Commercial Officer
For Divisional Superintendent Pakistan Railway, Sukkur

PRO(L)/Sukkur/4

pakrailpk pakrail.gov.pk www.pakrail.gov.pk "DONATE FOR DIAMER-BASHA AND MOHMAND DAMS"

PAKISTAN RAILWAYS

Divisional Office, Sukkur

RHQ-267

AUCTION NOTICE

LEASE OF PAKISTAN RAILWAY ALREADY CONSTRUCTED SHOPS

Divisional Superintendent Sukkur intends to lease out Pakistan Railway constructed shops premium basis as per following Programs and marriage lawn at Larkana.

S.No.	Site of Shops	Shops No.	Date of Auction	Place of Auction
1	Larkana Railway Market No. 02 Near Railway Station	1 to 23 & Marriage Lawn	14-11-2019	Railway Rest House Larkana
2	Sukkur Market No. 02 Near Aube Gate	1 to 21	18-11-2019	DS/office Sukkur
3	Nawabshah Market No. 01 Near Rest House	1 to 5 & 7 to 10	25-11-2019	AEN office Nawabshah
4	Nawabshah Market No. 02 Near Rest House	2,5,06, 07, 10, 11, & 12	-do-	AEN office Nawabshah
5	Nawabshah Market No. 03 Near Railway Station	12, 13, 14, 15, & 18	-do-	AEN office Nawabshah
6	Nawabshah Market No. 04 Near Railway Station	2	26-11-2019	AEN office Nawabshah
7	Nawabshah Market No. 05 Near AEN Banglow	4	-do-	AEN office Nawabshah
8	Dour Market No. 01 Near Railway Station	6	-do-	AEN office Nawabshah
9	Dour Market No. 02 Near Railway Station	1 & 2	-do-	AEN office Nawabshah
10	Sadiqabad Near Railway Station Market No. 01	1 to 10 & 91, 93, & 94	03-12-2019	Sadiqabad Railway Station

Terms & Condition of shops may be seen on Railway website and details may also be obtained from AEN/P&L office, at DS office Sukkur, and AEN/LRK, NWS & KPR.

Details of terms & condition will be displayed on the spot of auction.

Riaz Ali Shah
Dy. Dir/P&L, For Divisional Superintendent, Sukkur

PRO(L)/Sukkur/19

pakrailpk pakrail.gov.pk www.pakrail.gov.pk "DONATE FOR DIAMER-BASHA AND MOHMAND DAMS"

PAKISTAN RAILWAYS

Divisional Office, Sukkur

RHQ-266

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited by the Divisional Superintendent, Pakistan Railways, Sukkur based on Composite Schedule of Rates-2016 and Through Rate from the Contractors/Firms who are registered with Engineering Council (PEC) in CE-02 code for bridge work and have renewed themselves for the valid year as well as ATL list of FBR.

S.No.	Name of Work	Cost	Earnest Money	Completion period	Tender Fee
1.	Conversion of 1x5'-0" arch bridge No. 60 at Km 207/9-10 into 1x4'-4" RCC box culvert between Piaro Goth-Rehmani Nagar stations on Habibkot-Dadu section	26,76,000/-	2% of quoted bid money	3 Months	Rs. 2000/-
2.	De-Silting reservoir of filtration plant at Rohri	21,33,024/-		3 Months	Rs. 2000/-

Tender documents can be obtained from Divisional Superintendent's Office (Works Accounts Section) Pakistan Railways, Sukkur from the date of publication upto **21-11-2019 at 11:00 hours**. Tender will be received/dropped in the tender box of Divisional Accounts Officer, Pakistan Railways, Sukkur before **12:00 hours**, on the same day and tender will be opened at **12:30 hours** in presence of tenderers or their representatives who chose them to remain there. The cash deposit/receipt or call deposit for earnest money 2% must be attached with tender documents at the time of dropping the tender in tender box.

NOTE: This tender notice will also be available on PPRA website **www.ppra.org.pk** & Pakistan Railway website **www.pakrail.com.pk**.

(Sanaullah Khan), DEN-I
For Divisional Superintendent Pakistan Railway, Sukkur
Ph: 071-9310060

PRO(L)/Sukkur/18

pakrailpk pakrail.gov.pk www.pakrail.gov.pk "DONATE FOR DIAMER-BASHA AND MOHMAND DAMS"

Pemra bar on Fazl presser coverage illegal: Peshawar High Court

Observes channels can file contempt petitions if such restraining orders issued again

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Peshawar High Court has ruled that the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority's act of stopping television channels from airing the news conference of Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman was illegal and a violation of the Constitution and the Pemra Ordinance, 2002.

A bench consisting of Chief Justice Waqar Ahmad Seth and Justice Ahmad Ali ruled that the bar on the media coverage of the JUI-F's presser violated Article 19 of the Constitution and Section 27 of Pemra Ordinance.

The bench had pronounced on Oct 29 a short order of accepting the petition of lawyer and JUI-F leader Obaidullah Anwar, who had challenged the Pemra's act of stopping news channels from telecasting Mr Fazl's news conference through verbal orders and requested the court to declare it illegal and unconstitutional.

In the detailed judgment, the bench cited the provisions of Constitution and Pemra Ordinance, 2002, and directed Pemra to ensure that private television channels air the opposition's activities on a par with the government's.

The bench observed that if any channel was again told not to cover the JUI-F leader's news conference, the petitioner could file a contempt petition with the court.

Quoting Section 27 of the Pemra Ordinance, the bench ruled that the said provision clearly revealed that the authority should by order in writing prohibit any broadcast media or distribution service operator.

It, however, said records of the case would reveal that there was existed no such orders in writing and instead, the Pemra verbally instructed all TV channels not to telecast the news conference of the JUI-F leader, which was a clear violation of the law.

The bench observed that Article 19 of the Constitution provided every citizen to have the right to freedom of speech and expression, etc.

It referred to a Supreme Court judgement in a case of Dr Shahid Masood and others (2010 SCMR 1849) wherein it was declared that the role attached to electronic media stemmed out of the fundamental rights of freedom of speech, expression and of press as guaranteed by article 19 of the Constitution.

In the same judgment, the court had ruled that equally important, if not more, was the right of every citizen to have access to information in all matters of public importance as guaranteed by provisions of Article 19-A of the Constitution.

Meanwhile, the court also released the detailed judgment in two other petitions, one filed by Obaidullah Anwar and other by Azmat Ali Mohmand against the placing of shipping containers on roads for blocking the rallies board for Islamabad to join the JUI-F's Azadi March.

The bench had accepted the two petitions on Oct 29.

In the detailed order, the bench ruled that the act of the respondents, including provincial government, to place containers to block roads to Islamabad was illegal and without lawful authority.

It asked the respondents to open the roads immediately by removing containers till the vicinity of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province.

However, the bench directed the petitioners to furnish a bond to the high court's additional registrar (judicial) to declare that marchers will remain peaceful and will not damage the public and government property.

It referred to articles 15, 16 and 17 of the Constitution observing that those provisions guaranteed freedom of movement, the peaceful assembling of people and the formation of association or union.

Land acquisition begins for Dasu power project

MANSEHRA: Deputy commissioner of Upper Kohistan district Arif Khan Yousafzai on Thursday said the administration had begun the acquisition of over 9,000 acres of land for Dasu hydropower project.

Mr Yousafzai told reporters on Thursday that Upper Kohistan district, where the project was being executed, was an unsettled area as far as the land was concerned, so after assuming the office almost a month ago, he had ensured the settlement of all land issues with the help of the local jirga.

He said the administration had acquired 730 acres of land leading to the start of work.

The deputy commissioner said the Dasu project would improve the socioeconomic conditions of the residents and help address power shortage in the country.—Correspondent

Provincial anti-narcotics law challenged in high court

PESHAWAR: A resident has moved the Peshawar High Court against the enactment of a special anti-narcotics law by the provincial government insisting that in the presence of the federal government's Control of Narcotics Substance Act, 1997, a provincial law on the subject couldn't be enacted.

Asmatullah of Peshawar filed the petition requesting the court to declare that the KP Control of Narcotics Substance Act (KPCNSA), 2019, is unconstitutional, illegal, without jurisdiction and against the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

He sought as an interim relief the suspension of the operation of the law until the final disposal of the petition.

Respondents in the petition are the provincial government through the chief secretary, provincial secretaries of the law and establishment departments, federal law secretary, and the provincial assembly's secretary.

The KPCNSA was passed by the provincial assembly on Aug 27 and received the governor's assent on Sept 2.

While passing the law, the government had claimed that it had incorporated specific provisions for checking the growing use of ice drug in the province.

The petitioner's lawyer, Noor Alam Khan, is an expert on narcotics laws.

The petitioner said the federal government had enacted a comprehensive law called Control of Narcotics Substance Act (CNSA), 1997, and had provided therein special provisions for curbing the menace of narcotics.

He said the onus to prove the guilt of accused had not been placed entirely on the prosecution rather on the accused to prove his innocence as well.

The petitioner said the CNSA, 1997, was a very rigid special law wherein extreme punishment of death or imprisonment for life had been provided. He added that the provision of bail had been ousted by the CNSA, while the vehicles used in the offence were also confiscated to the State.

The petitioner said despite the presence of the CNSA, the provincial government recently passed the KPCNSA.

He said the CNSA, 1997, had already been extended to whole of Pakistan, so in its presence, the provincial assembly had no authority to pass a law on same subject.

The petitioner said although the Concurrent Legislative List of the Constitution had been omitted from the Constitution through the Constitution (Eighteenth Amendment) Act, 2010, a mini concurrent list continued to exist in Article 142 relating to criminal law, criminal procedure and evidence and therefore, any law made by a provincial legislature on those subjects would be against Article 143 of the Constitution, while the federal law on the subject would prevail.

Advocate Noor Alam Khan said under the doctrine of 'occupied field', the federal law of narcotics was already there and applicable to the entire Pakistan, which had been implemented by well-trained and experienced officers of the Anti-Narcotics Force, so the enactment of new law manifested the mala fide intent on part of the provincial government.

He said the impugned KPCNSA would only be applicable to the province, whereas rest of the country would be covered by the federal CNSA that was a clear violation of Article 25 of the Constitution.—Bureau Report

Huge amount allocated for uplift of tribal districts, says CM

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Mahmood Khan has said that a huge amount of Rs83 billion has been allocated for development of tribal districts.

He was addressing a khidi katcheri in Garyum area of North Waziristan tribal district, said a statement issued here.

He said that Rs2.92 billion was already released for the land utilisation of Miramdah market and Rs6.9 billion was provided to Tribal Electric Supply Company (Tesco) for electrification in North Waziristan.

He said that electrification project for Garyum area had been started in 2017 with an estimated cost of Rs917.978 million under which 11KV feeder was installed and inaugurated on Thursday. The feeder will provide electricity to 55 villages of the area.

The statement said that MPAs Mir Kalam, Iqbal Wazir and Malik Shah Mohammad Wazir besides tribal elders attended the khidi katcheri. It said that chief minister listened to the problems of local people and issued directives for their resolution on the spot.

Mr Khan said that provincial government was spending huge resources to bring tribal people to the mainstream of development. He said that the announcement made by Prime Minister Imran Khan regarding establishment of higher educational institutions in tribal districts would be materialised.

He said that it was a major change that representatives of tribal districts were present in the provincial assembly. Earlier, the chief minister inaugurated 11KV feeder.—Bureau Report

Body on jail reforms meets in Haripur

HARIPUR: The oversight committee on implementation of jail reforms held its meeting here on Thursday with deputy commissioner, Haripur, in the chair.

The committee was formed and notified by the provincial home department in the light of recommendations of the federal ombudsman that were framed following a suo motu notice of the apex court.

The recommendations called for implementing reforms that included improving conditions in jails for prisoners, especially women, children and inmates lacking sufficient resources.

The committee had last year presented its recommendations for improvements that were sent to the home department. It again discussed the problems and needs of the jail inmates and decided to visit the Haripur jail on Saturday for compiling another set of recommendations.

Human rights activist Sadaqat Khan, jail superintendent Maqsood Khan Khattak, assistant superintendent Saood Khan, Dr Muhaiman from the University of Haripur, advocate Jawad Habib and advocate Gulnaz Rasheed were the members present in the meeting.—Correspondent

PM to address public meeting in GB today

GILGIT: Prime Minister Imran Khan will announce development projects worth billions of rupees for Gilgit-Baltistan, says Federal Minister Ali Amin Gandapur.

Addressing a public gathering in Chilas on Thursday, he said that prime minister was scheduled to visit Gilgit-Baltistan on November 1, the independence day of the region.

He said prime minister would address a public meeting in Gilgit during his visit to the region. He said that prime minister was taking interest of development of the region.

"The prime minister wants to develop tourism and minerals sectors in the region to benefit local people," said the minister.

He said that foreign investors wanted to make investment in tourism sector in Gilgit-Baltistan.

"This region has potential to generate economy from CPEC, tourism, minerals and other sectors," said the minister.

He added that Gilgit-Baltistan was base camp for CPEC.

Meanwhile, PTI local leader Syed Jaffar Shah said that prime minister would make important announcements during his visit to the region.

Addressing a party meeting, he said that Imran Khan was the first prime minister, who would attend GB independence day celebrations.

Other local leaders of PTI including Fatullah Khan, Amina Ansari, Akbar Hussain Akbar and Jahangir Jigari also addressed the meeting.—Correspondent

Bolan Mining Enterprises
(A Joint Venture of Government of Balochistan and Pakistan Petroleum Ltd.)
TENDER NOTICE
Managing Sales Tax Department, and others are invited to submit sealed bids against same mentioned below:-
1. M/S PETROLEUM LTD. Supply of High Speed Diesel (HSD) on sale consignment account basis
2. M/S [illegible] Supply of lubricants and grease for a period of one year as per specifications mentioned in tender documents.
Banking Procedure: Single stage One Envelope, PR Procedure
Tender Document Issue: PKR 1,000 (One Thousand) each
Value of Bid Money: Rs. 1,000/-(one No. 100,000/-) & Rs. 1,000/-(one No. 5,000/-)
Tender Date Collection & Bid Submission Place: MMB House, 3rd B Model Town Quetta, Balochistan, Pakistan
Tender Docs Collection Date: 21-10-2019 to 28-10-2019 working hrs (Govt. Holidays Excl.)
Bid Closing Date & time: 28-10-2019 at 02:00 p.m.
Bid Opening Date & time: 28-10-2019 at 02:30 p.m.
Tender & Bid money details must be mentioned on the envelopes.
Bolan Mining Enterprises reserves the right to accept/reject any or all bids as per provisions of PPRA Rules.
RESIDENT MANAGER
Ph.(092-81-2830161-71, 2830192) Fax: 081-2830207 Email: PM@bme.com.pk

Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited
TENDER ENQUIRY NO. CE/QUETTA
Description: White Washy Wooden Polish & Enamel Work at Regional Office M.A. Jinnah Road Gujranwala. Period: -
Opening Date: 25.11.2019
Interested parties having valid Sales Tax Registration, NTN Certificate and Professional Tax Clearance Certificate can purchase tender documents on any working day (from Monday to Friday) on or before 25-11-2019 from the office of Senior Officer Administration (SNGPL) M.A. Jinnah Road Gujranwala against a fee of Rs. 1000/- (non-refundable / non-transferable) payable in shape of Pay Order / CDR / Demand Draft in favor of SNGPL. The tender duly filled in all respects can be submitted on or before 25-11-2019 till 1100 Hours and will be opened publically on same date at 1130 hours in the presence of parties.
SAY NO TO CORRUPTION PEC(12)2019

Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited
TENDER ENQUIRY NO. CE/QUETTA
Description: Furniture/ Furture Repairing & Polishing work at Regional Office M.A. Jinnah Road Gujranwala. Period: -
Opening Date: 21.11.2019
Interested parties having valid Sales Tax Registration, NTN Certificate and Professional Tax Clearance Certificate can purchase tender documents on any working day (from Monday to Friday) on or before 21-11-2019 from the office of Senior Officer Administration (SNGPL) M.A. Jinnah Road Gujranwala against a fee of Rs. 1000/- (non-refundable / non-transferable) payable in shape of Pay Order / CDR / Demand Draft in favor of SNGPL. The tender duly filled in all respects can be submitted on or before 21-11-2019 till 1100 Hours and will be opened publically on same date at 1130 hours in the presence of parties.
SAY NO TO CORRUPTION PEC(12)2019

Dams Head for Prosperity
WAPDA INTERNATIONAL BID NOTICE
TARBELA POWER STATION
INVITATION TO BID
Bid Reference No. OP/TTR-615
1. Chief Engineer (Power) WAPDA, Tarbela invites sealed bids from the Original Manufacturers/ Authorized Distributors/ Suppliers/ Contractors registered with Income Tax and Sales Tax Department and are on Active Taxpayers List (ATL) of FBR or persons licensed by the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) in the appropriate category for Procurement of Gate Opening Display Instrument (ODI), Make: M/s Omron, China or equivalent, for standard bays, head regulators and under sluice of Barrage Tarbela Power Station through I.C.B on F.O.B basis. Time period for performance of the Contract is 180 days.
2. Bidding documents which are containing detailed terms & conditions, method of procurement, procedure for submission of bids, bid security, bid validity, opening of bid, evaluation criteria, clarification/rejection of bids, performance guarantee etc. are available for the interested bidders at Chief Engineer (Power), WAPDA-Power Station, Tarbela, Post Code: 23470, District Swabi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan, Phone # 0938-281180-82, Fax # 0938-281186, Email: cetarbelapower@gmail.com (Contact # (TRE 0938-281126). Price of the bidding documents is Rs. 1,000/- each (non-refundable) in shape of pay-order/bank draft in favour of:
• Chief Engineer (Power) WAPDA Tarbela Dam, payable on M/s Habib Bank Limited, G.I.K.I Branch, Topi-1979 (A/c No. 19760006519303) in case of purchasing bidding documents from Tarbela office.
OR
• Manager Finance (Hydel) WAPDA Lahore payable on M/s Habib Bank Limited, Gardee Square Branch, Lahore (Account No. 1038-58) in case of purchasing bidding documents from General Manager (Hydel), 185-WAPDA House, Lahore office.
3. The bids prepared in accordance with the instructions in the bidding documents along with bid security 2% of the bid amount, must reach as per following details. Bid will be opened on the same day:

Last Date of Obtaining Bidding Documents	Closing Date and Time for Submission of Bid	Place for Receiving Bids: By Hand on the Closing Day	Place for Receiving Bids: By Post/ Courier	Date, Time and Location of Public Opening of Bids
23-12-2019 (During Office Hours)	24-12-2019 up to 1100 Hrs.	WAPDA Officers Club, River View Colony, Tarbela	Chief Engineer (Power) WAPDA, Tarbela	24-12-2019 at 1130 Hrs. WAPDA Officers Club, River View Colony, Tarbela

NOTE:
1. Bid notices may be downloaded from WAPDA and PPRA's Websites.
2. The Procuring Agency reserve the rights to accept/reject the bids under the provisions of PPRA Rules.
CHIEF ENGINEER (POWER), WAPDA POWER STATION, TARBELA
Ph. No. 0938-281180-82, Fax No. 0938-281186
Email: cetarbelapower@gmail.com
This notice is also available at PPRA Website: www.ppra.org.pk
PEC(L)(244)19 Website: www.wapda.gov.pk PEC(L)(56)19
DONATE FOR DIAMER BASHA AND MOHMAND DAMS SAY NO TO DRUGS

SAY NO TO CORRUPTION
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY
NOTICE TO BID INVITATION
FOR AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR OPERATION & MANAGEMENT OF SHORKOT REST AREA AT KM-128 NORTH & SOUTH BOUND ON MULTAN – FAISALABAD – PINDI BHATTIAN MOTORWAY (M-4) ON ADVANCE NET GUARANTEED RENTAL BASIS
1. Multan – Faisalabad – Pindi Bhattian Motorway (M-4) is a Four (04) lane 258 KMs long, access controlled Motorway, which is an integral link of CPEC (China – Pakistan Economic Corridor).
2. NHA envisages to engage O&M (Operation and Management) Operator for Operation & Management of SHORKOT REST/LAYBY AREA on advance net guaranteed rental basis.
3. The Time Period of this contract will be Three (03) years, further extendable for a period of Two (02) years, subject to satisfactory performance, mutual consent of both parties and subject to approval by NHA.
4. On completion of contract period, the operator shall hand over all of the amenities/installations to NHA in a properly maintained and operational condition without any claim to cost of repair and maintenance.
5. The Bidding documents comprising detailed terms & conditions, scope and bidding form, can be obtained from the office of Deputy Director (FR/RE) NHA-HQ, Islamabad during office hours after depositing Rs. 2000/- (Non-Refundable) in form of pay order in favour of NHA Road Maintenance Account, Islamabad.
6. Bidding documents can also be downloaded from NHA's website (www.nha.gov.pk) free of cost.
7. In respect to above, a Pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 05th November, 2019 at 1130 Hours in NHA Auditorium, Islamabad.
8. The Bids complete in all respects is to be submitted on Thursday, 14th November, 2019 at or before 1100 Hours as in NHA Auditorium, Islamabad. The received bids will be opened on the same day at 1130 Hours.
9. Further details can be obtained from the office of Deputy Director (FR/RE) NHA-HQ Islamabad during working hours.
10. This advertisement is also available on NHA and PPRA websites.
11. NHA reserves the right to reject any or all of the proposals as per PPRA Rules.
GENERAL MANAGER (ROW-REV)
28-Mauve Area, G-9/1, Islamabad
Tel: 051-9032729, Fax: 051-9032948, Websites: www.nha.gov.pk, www.ppra.org.pk
DONATE FOR DIAMER BASHA AND MOHMAND DAMS

[illegible] Bank Limited
Invitation for Bid
Sealed bids are invited from the registered suppliers/ manufacturers/ dealers/ contractors for the supply of the following items:

Sr.	Description	Qty.	Earnest Money
01	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Terms & Conditions:
1. [illegible]
2. [illegible]
3. [illegible]
4. [illegible]
5. [illegible]
6. [illegible]
7. [illegible]
8. [illegible]
Say No to Corruption

NATIONAL BANK OF PAKISTAN
INVITATION FOR BID
1. Renovation & Refurbishment of "Old Shujabad Road Branch Multan (2324)"
2. Renovation & Refurbishment of "Islamic Banking Branch, Zaheerabad Shaheed, Mailsi District Vehari (0654)"
3. Renovation & Refurbishment of "NBP NICVD Branch at Jinnah Post Graduate Medical Center, Karachi"
National Bank of Pakistan invites sealed bids for the procurement of services for the above works, from reputed & financially strong office interior works constructors with active status on FBR Active Tax Payers List and are in the business of office interior construction from last five years according to architectural drawings with specified materials. Pre-requisites for the issuance of bidding documents are:
1. A constructor should be registered with Pakistan Engineering Council in C-6 or above financial category along with CE-10 and EE-04 construction specialties.
2. Constructors who have finished minimum three similar nature of projects of worth not less than three (3.0) Million Pak Rupees each during last five years are eligible to bid.
For interested office interior works constructors Single Stage-Single Envelope Bidding Documents containing details of bid, detailed terms and conditions, method of procurement, procedure for submission of bids, bid security, bid validity, opening of bid, evaluation criteria, clarification / rejection of bids, performance guarantee, etc., have been made available against a price [as per PPRA Rules 23(5)] of Rs. 2000/- in the form of pay order in the name of "Chief Engineer, National Bank of Pakistan" in business hours and within working days up till 15-11-2019 from the following office:
"Divisional Head, Engineering Division, 3rd Floor, National Bank of Pakistan, Head Office I.I. Chundrigar Road, Karachi. Tel: +92-21-99220766, Ext No. 021-38902341"
The bids, prepared in accordance with the instructions in the Bidding Documents must reach in the office above on or before 11:30 am on 18-11-2019. Bids will be opened on the same day at 12:00 pm in the office where bids collected. If office remains closed for some reason, same work will be done on the next working day at same time. This advertisement is also available on PPRA website at www.ppra.org.pk as well as on the National Bank of Pakistan website at https://www.nbp.com.pk/TENDER
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DAWN

OPINION

Tezgam tragedy

THE Tezgam inferno near Liaquatpur in southern Punjab is a horrible reminder of the dangerous times we continue to live in, especially in a land exposed to perils that should have been eliminated long ago. More than 70 lives have been lost in the fire that broke out early Thursday morning in the train as it journeyed upcountry from Karachi. The railways minister added insult to injury when he blamed passengers for using a gas cylinder which caused the fire. Surely, if he was able to so quickly solve this mystery, he could have gone on to specify which passenger was responsible. Or did he mean that all of them were equally to blame? The real question is: who *allowed* those gas cylinders into the train?

Regrettably, accidents involving Pakistan Railways are frequent, and there have been a series of them during the year-old tenure of Minister Sheikh Rashid. A dozen of them have been categorised as 'major'. Incidents of fire breaking out on trains in the country are also quite common. Railways officials reported 12 fires over one year to the National Assembly during a briefing in July. In four of them, the fire had erupted in the dining cars that accompany the passenger bogies. There were at least eight incidents of fire elsewhere on trains. Yet it took a fatal blaze of this magnitude for Sheikh Rashid to come up with the assurance that henceforth, the ban on carrying items such as filled gas cylinders on trains would be strictly enforced. Many of those killed were said to be going to Raiwind for the *tablieghi* congregation. The minister said the ban extended to *tablieghi* members who, by his own admission, had been given some kind of an exemption on this count. This is an admission of negligence, and bound to fuel demands for the resignation of those in charge of Pakistan Railways in aid of a fair inquiry.

If the official response offered a sense of regret it was drowned in the effort to paint a perfect picture of what the railways would look like after the government approved a proposed reform scheme. This is an ill-timed reiteration of the vows regarding a turnaround, and eclipses many issues related to the day-to-day running of the railways. The railways minister might congratulate himself for coming up with a supposedly ingenious lottery scheme to hire new staff and go on endlessly on the need for funds to transform the system. But such thinking is at best an escape from reality, and does nothing whatsoever to address problems such as broken and crumbling tracks, improperly operated railway crossings, the lack of vigilance and security, and many other challenges plaguing the Railways. The louder the pledges, the more obvious the contrast becomes between what is and what ought to be.

Caving in to traders

IT is a little difficult to say what exactly happened between the government and the trader community, but one thing is clear: the outcome looks very much like a capitulation on the part of the rulers. After a countrywide shutter-down strike that lasted a day and a half, a compromise was worked out that effectively postponed all decisions till January. The composition of the government delegation, which included the PTI's Jahangir Tareen as the key negotiator, suggests this was more a political solution to the matter than one driven by the economic interests of the state. Clearly, the sight of a shutter-down strike in the middle of the Azadi march was not palatable. On the other hand, the traders had been assured that their demands for replacing the documentation measures in the new tax regime, which is being rolled out by the government after its last budget announcement, with a flat turnover tax would be presented to the IMF for approval. Evidently, this was taken by the traders as a signal that the government was willing to play ball, but that it needed permission from its overlords before making any commitment.

Now we have a very different signal altogether. Postponing everything until January, and allowing political players to enter the negotiations, has sent the signal that this is no longer just an economic issue, but also one whose political fallout is beginning to bite. Hence the entry of Mr Tareen. The trader leadership has assured the government that it will urge its constituents to step forward and pay more taxes, and in return the tax authority will create a 'committee', in which the traders will be represented, to hear any specific grievances. One might have considered this as some sort of 'progress' to break the impasse had we not seen all this before. The trader community is now notorious for offering more cooperation in the future in return for real gains in the present — gains usually defined as an exemption from whatever tax obligations the government is trying to urge them to accept. They are equally notorious for either reneging, or being otherwise unable to deliver, on these commitments by the time the deadline arrives. In the past, this has meant further talks, followed by fresh deadlines. This is how the status quo has dragged itself out for almost two decades now. So what's a few months more?

China's HR record

HUMAN rights should be beyond politics, as conscientious individuals must call out abuse anywhere in the world regardless of political proclivities. Unfortunately, it is the cold calculations of realpolitik that actually determine how states react to human rights situations. The recent UN debate on human rights in China, particularly in its Xinjiang region, is a prime example of how politics can shape stances on fundamental rights. Twenty-three states, mostly Western countries, slammed Beijing for its alleged human rights abuses in Xinjiang targeting the region's native Uighur population, as well as other Muslim groups. A British statement urged China to refrain from "the arbitrary detention of Uighurs and members of other Muslim communities". In reaction, geopolitical allies of China, including this country, shot back praising Beijing's "remarkable achievements in the field of human rights". Over 50 states supported China, praising it for "promoting human rights through development". It is true that many Western states quickly pounce on geopolitical rivals, yet remain considerably muted when allies are accused of rights abuses. On the other hand, China's allies are willing to look the other way just to benefit from the economic clout of the People's Republic.

Beyond politics, the fact is that rights abuses anywhere must be condemned unconditionally. This country has rightly highlighted Indian atrocities in India-held Kashmir, though many Muslim states have kept quiet just to curry favour with New Delhi. Similarly, the situation in Xinjiang needs the attention of Muslim states. China is indeed an ally, therefore diplomatic channels need to be used to communicate the fact that the people of Xinjiang must be able to freely practise their faith. Perhaps delegations from Muslim states and international human rights groups should tour Xinjiang to see first-hand how the Uighurs are treated. Moreover, China itself would greatly benefit by opening up Xinjiang and letting the Uighurs and other Muslim communities take part in their religious and cultural practices freely. Terrorism is a legitimate concern, but cracking down unnecessarily on people's way of life will only breed more alienation.

BY FAISAL BARI

Learning, reflection & growth

Students' thinking remains in silos, and these silos tend to be quite narrow.

STUDENT assignments, even at the advanced undergraduate and graduate levels, tell a relatively unhappy story about how students are (not) learning optionally from their readings and/or discussions within their classes.

There are those who outright plagiarise and hand in work that others have done. There are such students in all classes and/or universities, but I am not talking about these students here. These students have clearly opted out of the learning process, possibly in quest for just a degree/diploma, or for another reason, but I will ignore issues of how to engage this group if that is needed and leave that topic for another day.

When I read assignment papers, a substantial proportion of papers essentially consist of summaries of what students have read from the textbooks and/or papers they had been assigned. In the case of research papers, other than any empirical work they might have done themselves, most of the conceptual frame and analysis comes from other people's thinking and writing.

In two decades of teaching, one of the things I have found hardest in my interactions with students is how to get them to reflect on their learning and how they learn. This is not about speed reading, speed comprehension and so on, it is about how readings are internalised, how they are synthesised, how they shape their understanding, and how this all eventually reflects in their knowledge and worldview.

The first problem is, of course, that there are many students who do not read widely. Sometimes, they do not even read assigned text and/or papers. But, more than that, most of the students do not read *around* their assigned reading. They do not have a context for their assigned readings; they do not have access to relevant examples, and do not have access to connecting thoughts that could have come from extra readings. Students are usually made to enrol in a number of courses so that the reading loads they carry are significant. But whatever the reason, it results in a lack of sufficient reading in and around the area of interest.

The course load also leads to scant time for reflection. Students need to think about what they read; they need to connect across readings, across topics and sometimes across subjects as well. But they never get the time to do that during semesters. And, even if they have free time, they might not — and most do not — know how to connect across readings, topics and subjects. Their thinking remains in silos, and these silos tend to be quite narrow.

In my teaching of economics, it has been easy to get students to give me definitions. It has been harder to get students to give examples of issues linking to the definition. It is even harder to get them to give examples other than those that are given in their textbooks, and it is very hard to make them come up with examples from their lives. The hardest part of all is to make them reflect on phenomena in the 'real' world around them and to get them to think of how the concepts they are reading about are reflected in the world around them.

But if students cannot internalise what they read to the point where they can see it to understand what is going on around them, it is not learning (or at least not full learning) and it is definitely not going to have an impact (or a sufficient impact) on their growth.

Part of the problem stems from early training at the school level. A lot of our teaching and learning, and testing of teaching and learning, is about reproduction and regurgitation. The mathematics method or the history lesson that was taught — do students remember it? And how do we test their 'understanding'? By asking them to reproduce things. Students internalise this as the method of learning and believe this is what education is about.

When I teach a concept from economics, philosophy or education, the fields I teach in, I am not interested in hearing from students what Kant said about the issue. I want students to read Kant, yes, but I want them to read Kant to make sense of the concept we are dealing with. And then, when I want students to write papers on it, I want to know what students got out of their engagement with authors who have thought on the same issue before them. It is the views of the students, not of Kant, that are of interest to me.

Let me caution about another danger here. This is not to say that students can articulate their own opinions about a concept and/or issue without engaging with, as one author put it, "the best of what has been thought about this subject". So, to continue with the example here, the issue might not be able to be understood and/or explored without engaging with Kant. An opinion without the requisite reading and engagement would be of little value. But an opinion that is only restricted to reproducing what Kant had to say about the subject is also of little value. The key is to engage with Kant and then to go ahead and make sense of the world using that engagement. This last step is usually missing.

Education and learning is about engaging with conversations that have been going on for a long time and that will continue to go on. Children grow into these conversations, and this is what education is about — this is what being human is all about as well. It is not just about learning specific skills, methods or any list of facts. It is also not about reproducing what others have said. There have been a lot of conversations on critical thinking and learning in Pakistan, and they continue. The article is an attempt to discuss some concerns within this broader conversation. ■

The writer is a senior research fellow at the Institute of Development and Economic Alternatives, and an associate professor of economics at Lums, Lahore.

BY ASHA'AR REHMAN

Waylaid on GT Road

LAHORE exists somewhere between Imran Khan's march then and Maulana Fazlur Rehman's march now. Then, the PTI leaders were worried as their leader set off for his siege of Islamabad. That sit-in continued for months and thousands participated. Yet the mystery of just how many of them were from Imran Khan's hometown Lahore was never solved. The first impression that not 'too many' had chosen to join it as the procession began from Zaman Park has stayed.

That was an advance against Mian Nawaz Sharif who has lorded it over the politics of Lahore for many decades. There were some in the city who actually thought that Maulana Fazlur Rehman's march was going to be supported by the Sharifs. There was even a prediction doing the rounds that said that the size of the Fazl protest was going to swell beyond imagination as soon as the PML-N cadres joined hands with their JUI-F brethren in the capital of the Sharif dynasty. Alas.

It is a measure of Maulana Fazlur Rehman's training as a politician that he has tried to absorb the snub with a straight, smiling face. Maybe, he is saving his anger at having been badly let down by the PML-N for later, once he is through with the urgent business of dislodging the prime minister. But surely, he is not a rookie politician with a short memory to not understand the ramifications of the act just performed on him by his Lahori friends.

The PML-N did go about it in a manner that was likely to create expectations among the marchers. There were announcements of a reception, south the Sharif banner, awaiting the marchers at Thokar Niaz Beg. Some of the PML-N leaders had gone about promising reinforcements to the JUI-F along GT Road which as we all know is synonymous with Sharif power. The boost never came and the reception accorded to the maulana was quite meek given the reputation of their purported hosts.

Then, at the outset of a grand challenge thrown at the PTI government, Maulana Fazl was denied a meeting with Mian Nawaz Sharif who is under treatment at a hospital. It was said the doctors didn't allow their patient to see the march leader, which must have been a shock for those who were hoping that Mr Sharif's blessings would energise the Fazl initiative. The reason given for why the ailing former prime minister was certainly a bit of a surprise for everyone since it didn't quite go with the picture of defiance that has been painted by some of his close associates.

Mr Sharif's aides say — and we have no reason to doubt them — that he has constantly turned down

> It is a measure of Maulana Fazlur Rehman's training as a politician that he has tried to absorb the snub with a straight, smiling face.

all requests to go abroad for treatment. It is also said that he is still firmly in command of the party, and hence could be expected to be bound by the commitments he had made to the maulana before the start of the long march. The doctors are always in charge, but did they really think that with his platelets hovering at around 30,000, he couldn't for two minutes see his old pal from past opposition campaigns?

There is a view which says that the PML-N had actually told the maulana about its inability to commit the numbers for his march well in advance. The secrecy surrounding the contents of a letter that Mian Sahib had written to the JUI-F chief is cited to back this explanation.

But there is a statement that Mr Sharif made on television that echoes in the background as Maulana Fazl fails to draw a potentially crucial certificate of patronage from the current occupant of the VIP room at the Services Hospital. The PML-N leader's lines ring in the air: "We had made a mistake by not listening to the maulana just after the election [a reference to the JUI-F's rejection of the results of the 2018 general polls]. We will be making a mistake if we don't join him now [in his march]". Much has been made of the fact that the PML-N's second in command, Mian Shahbaz Sharif, also didn't turn up to greet the maulana in Lahore.

The criticism is a little off the mark since we all know that Shahbaz Sharif had opted to openly oppose a role for his party in the JUI-F protest, at the risk of exposing a disagreement between him and elder brother Nawaz Sharif. Shahbaz Sharif had even expressed his inability to join any march, citing health reasons. Mian Sahib's ailment could have created that much more room for his younger brother to do what he wanted to from the outset.

Whether this room will extend to the general running of the party is open to speculation. In the wake of the eight-week suspension in the sentence of Mian Nawaz Sharif, a government minister commented that he must use this period for his medical treatment. This was thinly veiled advice to Mian Sahib to stay away from politics — his politics of resistance and defiance. It 'naturally' followed that while Mian Sahib was on a break from politics, the party could set its direction right under the leadership of Mian Shahbaz Sharif.

There is a formula that emanates from an interaction between various developments in those relating to Mian Sahib's illness, the PML-N's failure to rise to the call issued by the Maulana, and the strengthening of the Shahbaz 'faction'. This formula makes it easier for those who always insist that whatever happens in the country happens because of some kind of a deal. Many of these deal disclosures have been exposed as fake as Mian Sahib has so far refused to make his much-predicted departure from Pakistan.

There are many more conspiracy theories swirling in the air and awaiting Mian Sahib's attention, if the doctors so allow. He can do little about the cold reception those he has raised over time have accorded to Maulana Fazlur Rehman. Maybe, one day he can lead a rally of his own from here which has people from Lahore. ■

The writer is Dawn's resident editor in Lahore.

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OPINION

BY MUSTAFA AKYOL

Who is a 'kafir'?

AT the magnificent St Peter's Square in Rome recently, Pope Francis welcomed a group of unusual guests: members of Nahdlatul Ulema (NU) from the world's most populous Muslim-majority country, Indonesia. The head of the delegation, Sheikh Yahya Cholil Staqul, gave the pontiff documents outlining the vision of a "humanitarian Islam" his organisation has been promoting.

The tenets of this vision reject Islamism — the politicised version of Islam that aims to establish the caliphate as a political system, and to make Sharia the law of the land, despite the diversity in modern societies. It also includes a proposal that is quite new and ambitious: that Muslims should stop calling non-Muslims 'kafirs'. This is necessary, the Indonesian Sheikh Staqul said, so that Muslims can "view others as a fellow human beings, fellow brothers in humanity".

"Kafir" is an Arabic word that comes from the root K-F-R, which means to 'cover' something. The implied meaning is that a kafir sees the truth of Islam, but still 'covers' it. Moreover, kafirs are seen as the sworn enemies of Islam and Muslims. That is why God will punish them by putting them into eternal hellfire.

All these themes can be found in the Quran, but we should not miss that there was a context to these verses. The Quran's kafirs were mainly polytheists who persecuted early Muslims and came close to assassinating the Prophet (PBUH) as well. While condemning these kafirs the Quran urged Muslims to use nuances between them and other non-Muslims that are not hostile. "God does not forbid you to deal kindly and justly with anyone who has not fought you for your faith or driven you out of your homes," a verse notes.

Other verses honoured Jews and Christians as fellow monotheists — the "People of the Book" — and even promised salvation for them in the afterlife. The Quran also embraces some religious pluralism, noting, "If God had so willed, He would have made you one community."

As Muslims built empires, the tolerant verses of the Quran were ignored, kafirs became the common term for all non-Muslims and the rest of humanity was seen as in sheer darkness.

This worldview is still influential in Muslim societies. Ann Ansbori, a coordinator of the Islamic Network against Discrimination in Indonesia, and a supporter of NU's call to disuse the term 'kafir', says "we are taught that non-Muslims are different from us and also aim to put Muslims worldwide in misery. Their appearance as upstanding individuals, we are taught, masks their actual desire to conquer Islam and Muslims".

When non-Muslims are seen in such terrible light, a Muslim who joins them is seen as an unforgivable traitor. That is why such *murtads*, (apostates) are given the death penalty in classical Islamic law — although it has no basis in the Quran. Meanwhile, terrorist groups like IS or Al Qaeda target fellow Muslims by using these labels.

Such enmity towards kafirs or *murtads* is a serious obstacle to human rights in Muslim-majority societies. They are also an obstacle to cordial, egalitarian relations between Muslims and others. The problem was noted as early as the mid-19th century by the Ottoman Empire, the seat of the Sunni caliphate. Hence came the famous 1856 Reform Edict, declared by Sultan Abdul Mejid I. It abolished "every distinction or designation tending to make any class whatever of the subjects of my Empire inferior to another class, on account of their religion, language, or race". One of the banned terms was 'gavur', which is a Turkish equivalent of 'kafir'.

What is at stake here is not just social harmony, but also sensible theology. Non-Muslims are non-Muslim for the very same reason that most Muslims are Muslim: they are following the tradition of the families and communities into which they were born. To say that God has cursed them for this is to postulate an unjust God. This really would not be the compassionate God of humanity that the Quran introduces.

> What is at stake is not just social harmony, but also sensible theology.

Indonesia's NU, whose very name means "the awakening of scholars", deserves praise for addressing this deep-seated problem in the Muslim tradition. Their notion of a 'humanitarian Islam' reminds of 'Christian humanism' — the intellectual movement that underpinned the European Renaissance. Its proponents, such as the 14th-century Italian poet Francesco Petrarca, argued that moral virtue could be attained "not only by Christians ... but rather by all humans and all nations". A very novel idea then, it allowed the rise of free and pluralist societies of the West.

When that humanist idea is challenged at the expense of Muslims, we Muslims rightly complain about "Islamophobia". But we should also challenge the non-Muslimophobia in our ranks. The NU deserves praise for addressing this deep-seated problem in the Muslim tradition. ■

The writer is a Turkish scholar the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C.

BY AASIM SAJJAD AKHTAR

The Punjab card

IT'S as close to a truism as possible in Pakistani politics: Punjab was, is, and presumably will be, for the foreseeable future, the heartland of the establishment-centric structure of power.

The British made Punjabis the dominant component in the army, transformed its ecology and society by building the world's biggest perennial irrigation system and also introduced a uniquely authoritarian method of government known affectionately in the annals of colonial bureaucracy as the 'Punjab school of administration'.

When Pakistan came into being, Punjab became a hegemon for three interrelated reasons: first, it supplied the majority of both the rank and file and officers of the emergent Pakistan army; second, Punjabis, alongside Urdu-speakers, dominated the civil bureaucracy; and third, Punjabi landowning politicians at home with the authoritarian 'Punjab school of administration' put their lot in with the civil-military state apparatus to thwart democratic rule.

This hegemonic bloc offset East Pakistan's demographic majority with the refrain that democracy could wait in lieu of defending the country from India and Afghanistan. Landed and other influential politicians in Sindh, Balochistan and then NWFP who sided with the Punjabi and Urdu-speaking combine were given a share of the proverbial booty, while others were doomed nobilities and criminalised in the "greater national interest". The charade was christened by Western imperialist powers who wanted a garrison state in southwest Asia to safeguard their interests in the Cold War.

Counter-hegemonic social forces in East and West Pakistan demolished both the material and discursive foundations of the oligarchic project in the 1970 election. Yet even after the eastern wing seceded, the Punjab-centric establishment refused to budge, now armed with demographic power whilst continuing to be the 'guardian of the country's physical and ideological frontiers'.

Not Balochistan, Sindh, the NWFP and other peripheral regions continued to be coerced and cajoled, with the junior partner of the military establishment now a more urbanised and vernacular 'bourgeois' politician that reflected socioeconomic changes in Punjabi. Cue Nawaz Sharif. More than 30 years after his emergence, Mian Sahib is now biting the hand that once fed him. So, is the 'Punjab card' being played against the establishment that has always employed it to perpetuate its own authoritarian project?

Only time will tell, and otherwise counter-hegemonic political narratives proffered by Pakhtun, Baloch, Sindhi and other ethnic nationalist movements would benefit from thinking more deeply about internal cleavages within Punjabi society to help make the prospect of a 'Punjab card' a reality.

> Mian Sahib is now biting the hand that once fed him.

Sharif illustrates that even bourgeois politicians can turn against their masters, let alone the working masses. Pakistan's first counter-hegemonic uprising against the establishment-centric structure of power at the tail end of the Ayub dictatorship had a significant Punjabi worker-peasant component. It is true that Punjabis generally tend to be less politicised and more loyal to statist narratives than Pakhtuns, Sindhis, Baloch, Seraikis and other ethnic-linguistic groups in Pakistan, but class contradictions within Punjab must not be understated.

The PML-N never represented the class interests of working people in Punjab, and the PTI does not any longer. The reception of Maulana Fazlur Rehman's long march in Lahore and other parts of Punjab clarifies that the PML-N leadership did not mobilise its cadres to heed Nawaz Sharif's call to support the march. In short, a counter-hegemonic secular politics appealing to Punjab's ordinary people is conspicuous by its absence. It is partly because of this reason that Flash-in-the-pan populist religious movements like the TLP make inroads into Punjabi society from time to time.

It is amongst more upwardly mobile segments of society that the hegemonic project is under question. Remember that it was vernacular middle-class elements in small towns, even big metropolitan areas, that Nawaz Sharif and the PML represented. These elements now understand that perennial enmity with India and pandering to the establishment is not the best business strategy. Yet another segment of the urban middle class is still propping up the establishment-centric structure of power as manifested through Imran Khan.

The urban middle-class is relatively fickle, and so it is only if and when a genuinely counter-hegemonic political force takes root in Punjab that there will be clarity on whether urban middle-class discontent in contemporary Punjab coalesces into a wider anti-establishment project which speaks to the interests both the lowest orders of Punjabi society, Pakistan's oppressed ethnic nations and all other segments of society that want to replace the national security state once and for all, and usher in peace, democracy and an egalitarian social order. ■

The writer teaches at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.

FROM THE PAST PAGES OF DAWN

1969 | Fifty years ago

Arafat's message

BEIRUT: Mr Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), yesterday (Oct 30) sharply denounced the Lebanese Army's "plot to liquidate the Palestine revolution" in an urgent message to all Arab Heads of State. This was announced at PLO headquarters in Amman, Jordanian capital, as new incidents between Lebanese troops and Palestine commandos were reported from Lebanon.

There was still no indication as to whether or when Mr Arafat and his aides would come to Cairo. But in this message to Arab Kings and Presidents, he urged them to "assume their responsibilities" and put an end to the Lebanese "plot". He affirmed that Lebanese forces, backed by artillery, armoured units and aircraft, were "relentlessly continuing their attacks on Lebanese villages and Palestine revolutionaries". The message added that several innocent civilians had been killed, but said that the revolutionaries were keeping their "heads — solely in order to spare Arab lives".

He had sent a similar cable at the beginning of the military-commando crisis in Lebanon. Fighting erupted again today when the Lebanese gendarmerie at Machta El Hassun in northern Lebanon ... came under attack this morning, informed sources said. Commandos had already attempted to take the post two days ago. — Agencies

1944 | Seventy-five years ago

"Verdict on India"

LONDON: Reviewing Beverley Nichols' book, "Verdict on India", in the "Sunday Observer", George Orwell says that much of what Nichols says is true but his way of saying it, and the things he leaves out, may mislead some people and will certainly antagonise countless others. "The thing that Nichols never really gets around to admitting," Orwell says, "is that India's major grievance against Britain is justified. The British are still in India, long after the Indians have ceased to want them. If one keeps that in mind, much of Nichols' indictment of the Congress politicians can be accepted.

"India's immediate problems will be solved by the disappearance of the British, says Nationalist propaganda which declares every existing evil to be a direct result of British rule — which is dishonest as well as hysterical. As Nichols is aware — indeed too much aware — this propaganda is lapped up by well-meaning liberals in this country and America who are all the readier to accept what Indian apologists tell them because they have no real interest in these problems. Many of Nichols' points would have been well worth making, if only he could have made them in a better tempered way." — *Dawn Delhi.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

letters@dawn.com

Letters may be edited for purposes of clarity and space and should carry the writer's address, CNIC and phone numbers.

Indian support to terrorism

INDIA mocked at Prime Minister Imran Khan's admission in the UN General Assembly that Pakistan trained Afghan mujahideen that the Soviets dubbed 'terrorists'.

India too trained Afghan Northern Alliance fighters. India's ambassador Bharath Raj Mutha Kumar, with the consent of then foreign minister Jaswant Singh, coordinated military and medical assistance that India was secretly giving to Ahmad Shah Massood and his forces in Afghanistan. The support involved helicopters, ordnance, mortars, small armaments, refurbished Kalashnikovs seized in Kashmir, combat and winter clothes, packaged food, medicines, and funds.

These supplies were delivered circuitously with the help of other countries (Aeroi and Farkhor air bases in Tajikistan) or through Massoood's brother in Canada, Wali Massoood.

India now calls Kashmiri freedom fighters terrorists. To refresh India's memory, it called insurgents in erstwhile East Pakistan *mukti bahini* 'freedom fighters'.

Unlike Kashmir, East Pakistan was not a disputed territory. It was an integral part of Pakistan. But, India harboured, nurtured, trained and armed Bengali 'freedom fighters' on Indian soil.

RAW's cover officers, including RK Yadav and B. Raman, make no bones about India's involvement in Bangladesh's insurgency. They admitted that India's prime minister Indira Gandhi, parliament, RAW and armed forces acted in tandem to dismember Pakistan. Raman reminds us that Indian parliament passed resolution on March 31, 1971, to support insurgency.

Indira Gandhi had then confided with RAW chief R.N.Kao that in case Sheikh Mujib was prevented ruling Pakistan, she would liberate East Pakistan from the clutches of military junta.

Let India not forget that Kashmir is a disputed state as per UN resolutions and the Simla accord (*pacta sunt servanda*; treaties are binding). India has withdrawn special status and usurped hereditary rights. A state that flouts international treaties is called a 'rogue state' (Noam Chomsky's *Rogue States*). Doubtless India qualifies as a rogue state and should be classified as such by the UN.

Amjed Jaaved
Rawalpindi

JUI-F march

MAULANA Fazlur Rehman is heading a campaign and leading a march to press Prime Minister Imran Khan to resign. A horrific déjà vu, the prime minister is being paid back in the same coin.

There are a few questions that are begging an answer: Will fresh elections at this point resolve our problems? The march has pushed the Kashmir issue to the sidelines. Shouldn't the Kashmir issue be tackled first? What is the JUI-F's game plan? Does the JUI-F have alternative solutions for the problems facing the country?

The unrest emanating from the march may land Pakistan in serious problems with the FATF. Does he have a strategy to address it? How will he tackle the financial and debt issues facing the country? One prays the country emerges stronger in the days ahead.

Iftikhar Mirza
Islamabad

(2)

JAMIAT Ulema Islam-F leader Maulana Fazlur Rehman said in a speech that his march was to save democracy, Pakistan and Islam.

If this is so I would like to ask the Maulana why he supported military dictator Pervez Musharraf, when he dismissed a democratic government. Second, if he really loves Pakistan, why did he decline and also discourage the masses not to celebrate Independence Day on this Aug 14? As for Islam and his interpretation of a wonderful and peaceful religion, the less said the better.

Riaz Ahmad Soomro
Shikarpur

Towel industry

THERE is much talk of boosting exports to earn greater foreign exchange and promote employment. In fact, the authorities have now implemented measures owing to which most small and medium sized exporters will shut down in the next two months.

The sales tax was imposed at 17 per cent on all inputs of the exporting industry across the board from July 1. The worried exporters, who are still grieving over the unpaid refunds promised them since 2016, were assured and reassured that their new refund applications would be processed within 72 hours through a super computer and without any human intervention.

Thereafter within another 72 hours the State Bank would credit the account of the exporter with his refund. We were told that whatever may have happened in the past we now had a super efficient system in place and all fresh applications under the current regime would be surely dealt with in a matter of six days.

The refunds application and forms are so cumbersome and complicated that only a few companies are able to fill the formalities required. So the small exporter is bowled-out anyway. Even us over a 100 exporters from the towel industry have applied for sales tax refunds for July. This was applied mostly in August and some owing to the complicated system even in early September. Not even a single firm received a refund.

A few have been told that their application had been rejected, while over 90pc have received no reply.

By the end of September almost half of the working capital of the exporters is now stuck in sales tax refunds. There is no alternative but to shut down till these refunds are released.

Tahir Jahangir
Chairman, Towel Manufacturers Association of Pakistan
Lahore

Franco reburied

APROPOS the news report 'Spain reburies dictator Franco in discreet tomb' (Oct 25).

Generalissimo Franco ruled Spain with an iron fist from 1939 till his death in 1975. His body was laid to rest at the vast basilica in the valley of the Fallen in Madrid. Now 44 years after his death, his casket has been exhumed and reburied at a state cemetery alongside that of his wife.

This brings to mind one of our own dictator who ruled the nation with an iron fist for eleven long years, aftereffects of which are still visible all around.

Could we even imagine taking a similar step for our late dictator, whose mortal remains presently lie in the precinct of the Faisal mosque in Islamabad?

M. K. Safi
Islamabad

PMDC dissolution

THE Pakistan Medical and Dental Council is the only institution mandated to regulate medical education in the country. Unfortunately, its affairs were marred by nepotism and corruption. This has forced Pakistani medical graduates to sit internal examinations and assessments in the countries where they wish to pursue post-graduate studies or practice their profession.

Second, contrary to the global practice of completing Continued Professional Development (CPD) hours to meet the renewal of registration requirements, the PMDC requires only the submission of an application and a fee for registration renewal.

In this context, the federal government's decision to dissolve the PMDC and establish a Pakistan Medical Commission is a step in the right direction. If the change is implemented with a clear vision and strategy, it should help Pakistan regain its reputation in the field of medical education. However, looking at the names of some of the PMC members, one fears this entire initiative may be counter-productive.

The government should reconsider the PMC's composition. It should ensure that persons with impeccable reputation from civil society and medical practitioners are among decision makers as the country's reputation is at stake.

Dr Amanullah Khan
Peshawar

Gas billing

SUI Southern Gas Company (SSGC) for the last two years has been involved in excessive billing against consumer number 2357250900 (9), meter number A-4971603 at a flat in Rufi Paradise, Block 18, Gulistan-i-Jauhar.

This is despite zero gas consumption. In fact, the flat has been lying vacant and locked without use since March 2017. This indicates the possibility of theft or leakage of gas, for I have moved to another location without giving the flat on rent.

Not only this, SSGC (Gulistan-i-Jauhar) area keeps on showing cumulative arrears on bills and has arbitrarily removed the SSGC meter connected to the flat. After being contacted, the officials concerned without investigating the facts always insist on payment of all arrears first and harass and humiliate consumer without redressing my grievances while I am willing to pay genuine dues, if there are any.

Despite several visits, meetings with SSGC officials, follow-ups by telephone, and a written complaint on Oct 4, demanding the adjustment of wrongly billed arrears and the restoration of the meter that was removed, the matter is still pending unresolved.

The SSGC managing director should intervene and order his staff to restore gas supply and meter, and adjust arrears in future bills with balance credit/debit to my account.

Erum Qureishi
Karachi

PPP's apathy

IT was indeed sad to learn that two young sanitary workers died apparently after inhaling toxic gases while cleaning a sewage line in Shah Latif Town on Oct 25.

I would like to ask the Sindh government, particularly PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto as to who should be held responsible for the death of these poor sanitary workers who died while performing their duty. This question is posed to the PPP chairman because he continues to blame the federal government, especially the prime minister, for not taking proper steps for the medical treatment of his ailing father and Nawaz Sharif.

He has forgotten that when his uncle was murdered in cold blood, his late mother was the prime minister. He has also forgotten that a child once lost his life as he could not be taken to the hospital on time because of the traffic jam owing to his protocol.

The Sindh government must not forget that these poor sanitary workers were young and bread-winners of their families and were as much citizens of this country as his father and Nawaz Sharif are.

I urge you to keep the public informed as to what action has been taken by the government to alleviate the suffering of the families of the deceased sanitary workers.

Farooq Dawood
Karachi

Hockey disaster

APROPOS the news item 'Netherlands crush Pakistan's Olympic dreams with 6-1 demolition' (Oct 28).

The fact is that hockey has become more or less a game played on ice with skates and pucks. I don't think our children will be able to play this game with white children who have exposure to winter sports. As they are used to this atmosphere and sport, their speed and leg power cannot be matched.

Our children might be fast runners but not all of them have the same physical training.

We should encourage other sports, we are good at or we should start longterm programmes for our kids in hockey and other sports. In Asia, maybe we shine a bit but it is not that same across the globe.

Mushtaq
Tokyo

Readers' Editor

IN keeping with the internationally recognised practice of ethical journalism, Dawn has its own internal ombudsman — ***Dawn Readers' Editor (DRE)***. The idea is to attend to our readers' complaints, and to respond to them professionally. DRE is the investigating authority to whom all complaints are referred, and it is DRE who takes notice of any alleged violations of *Dawn*'s code of ethics.
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BUSINESS

WB president urges focus on reforms for jobs, growth

ISLAMABAD: World Bank Group President David R. Malpass on Thursday said the reforms carried out by Pakistan for ease of doing business would help create jobs, attract investment and generate more tax revenue.

Malpass acknowledged the efforts taken by the government to improve its ranking on the Ease of Doing Business index.

"Your country jumped to 108th place from 136th last year. Your reforms made it easier for the entrepreneurs to start business, get electricity and construction permits, register property, pay taxes and trade across border", he remarked at the exhibition held to celebrate the country's 28-point jump in ease of doing business ranking.

He said that Pakistan could bring further ease in business by improving its judicial procedures, skill training and women empowerment. He also called for more digitisation of procedures and underscored the importance of transparency in reforms to win investors' confidence.

The World Bank would work hard to make Pakistan succeed as the country has the potential to make further reforms and cope with the challenges, he added.

Prime Minister Imran Khan, while speaking at the event, also informed the visiting delegation that the government is committed towards strengthening the economy, ensuring transparency and good governance through institutional reforms, tax reforms and socioeconomic development of marginalised sections of the society.

He added that ease of doing business, widening the tax base, domestic resource mobilisation, attracting foreign investment and financial reforms are the foremost priority of the government.

He said the government had launched various initiatives aimed at welfare of youth, poverty alleviation and housing sectors that would ultimately result in economic development.

The PM also stressed upon his economic team to make a new start by doing away with the old mindset of resisting wealth creation in the country.

He said the future belonged to wealth creation enabling government to collect more taxes and spend on public welfare.

The government wants industrialisation and alleviate poverty through more tax collection and spending to uplift the people's living standards, he added.

The PM also appreciated the World Bank's financial and technical support to the country.

On the other hand, WB President Malpass also lauded PM for personally spearheading various flagship programmes of the government.

He also recognised government's efforts towards economic turn-around, reducing expenditures and initiating reforms in critical sectors of the economy.

Adviser to PM on Commerce, Industries and Investment Abdul Razak Dawood said that improvement of country's ranking in "Ease of Doing Business" will attract foreign investment.

He also added that the improvement was an unprecedented jump in the country's business environment and increase investment.

Later, a round-table conference discussed issues related to energy sector and reforming tax regime of the country.

PM's Finance Adviser Dr Abdul Hafeez Sheikh gave an overview of the achievements made by the government during last year.

He said there was a considerable progress in exports, containing fiscal and current account deficit, revenue collection, restricting expenditures and exchange rate stabilisation.

Minister for Economic Affairs Hammad Azhar highlighted overall reform agenda of the government for economic turn-around.

Minister for Power Omar Ayub Khan and Assistant to PM on Energy Nadeem Babar shared the government's strategy to overcome issues related to energy sector including circular debt and efforts being made to diversify energy mix with greater reliance on alternate and renewable energy resources.

In a separate visit to the Tarbela Dam, President Malpass also expressed satisfaction over the completion of the 6th Extension Hydropower Project, noting that "the work on the project is impressive".

"I am happy over completion of the project within time and at less than estimated cost," he said in a briefing after visiting the Tarbela Dam Project.—APP

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of World Bank Group led by its President David Malpass is meeting with Prime Minister Imran Khan.—APP

Mansha proposes bond swap for circular debt

By Khaleeq Kiani

ISLAMABAD: With total circular debt close to Rs1.7 trillion, the government is considering to introduce swap bonds to re-profile short- and medium-term payables into long-term coupons having up to 25 years of maturity.

The proposal has come from leading businessman Mian Mohammad Mansha who had a meeting with Finance Adviser Dr Abdul Hafeez Shaikh here on Thursday. Another power sector player Muhammad Saleem Shahzad was also part of the meeting attended by Secretary Finance Naveed Kamran Baloch, State Bank of Pakistan Governor Dr Reza Baqir, Federal Board of Revenue Chairman Shabbar Zaidi and Special Secretary Finance Omar Hamid Khan.

Mansha is a key player in the sector with interests in at least four independent power producers (IPPs) and a leading shareholder in MCB.

Informed sources said the businessman gave a presentation to the participants to re-profile the circular debt that was mostly payable at present on short-term basis (fresh flow) and the medium-term (stock of circular debt parked with Power Holding Private Ltd - PHPL). The government team was proposed that the flows and existing bonds could be extended to 25 years through bond swap at relatively higher returns.

This should ease immediate payment problems and the need for issuance of sovereign guarantees. The bond swap proposal is in addition to an ongoing exercise to raise about Rs200bn worth of Sukuk from local commercial banks.

The government had launched Rs200bn Sukuk for the power sector at Kibor plus 80 basis points when Kibor rate ranged 10-12pc and has now reached 12-13 per cent. The proposed long-term swap would need relatively higher return while the authorities expect long-term coupons to result in a better yield curve.

An official statement said Shaikh presided over a meeting on outstanding payables to IPPs and the planned launch of Sukuk and swap. Various recommendations aimed at reducing the circular debt, payments to IPPs and launch of swap were also discussed.

Since there was no representation from the Ministry of Energy, it was decided that all matters including debt and bond swapping should be examined in detail in consultation with the Power Division and consensus proposals should be finalised for consideration of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet within two weeks.

While the proposals are yet to be finally crystallised, bond swaps generally provide any opportunity to both parties to exchange future cash flows like interest payments. An investor can sell an existing bond and purchase another with proceeds to follow in future.

Officials said the country's total circular debt was currently inching up towards Rs1.7tr with active circular debt in excess of Rs860bn as of September end. There is another debt stock of about Rs852bn being financed through various surcharges in the consumer tariff.

The power sector authorities and a visiting mission of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) are currently in the process of reconciliation of circular debt. The current government raised Rs200bn through Sukuk in the name of PHPL — an asset-less, state-owned shell entity — in March and another similar transaction is held up because of IMF's restriction on government's sovereign guarantees.

The stock of these guarantees stands at around Rs1.5tr and should not go beyond this until June next year under the bailout programme. The government is currently negotiating this limit to be relaxed.

The government had created a special desk at SBP for coordinating tasks with banks participating in the transaction, mainly for maintaining accounts and ensuring seamless repayments. The consortium was led by Meezan Islamic Bank and comprises Bank Islami, Faysal Bank, MCB Islamic, Dubai Islamic and Al-Baraka.

The financing had been declared statutory liquidity ratio eligible by the government and SBP. The assets, belonging to a number of public sector power companies, will remain mortgaged in favour of the financiers and the bond is backed by a government guarantee with a 10-year maturity at a rental return of Kibor plus 80 basis points, involving half-yearly rental repayments.

PM calls for price monitoring, improving supplies of essentials

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan on Thursday directed for a comprehensive plan to control price hike and ensuring availability of essential food items in the markets.

The prime minister issued the directives while chairing a meeting to review steps taken to control prices of essential edibles, particularly wheat and flour.

PM Khan directed for continuous monitoring of wheat and flour prices as well as improving coordination among the provinces in this regard.

The meeting expressed satisfaction over the decision of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) to release 650,000 tonnes of wheat from the stocks of Pakistan Agricultural Storage and Supplies Corporation (Passco) to the provinces.

The prime minister was informed that the government's recent steps had impacted wheat and flour prices and the ECC decision would further improve the situation. He was also briefed about the prices of various essential commodities.

PM Khan said special focus must be given to check the prices of items in wholesale and retail markets so that profiteering and hoarding should be discouraged. The prime minister was told that the Islamabad Capital Territory administration had launched a smart phone application that allows citizens to check official prices of household items and lodge complaints against the price hike. Steps are also being taken with the consultation of provinces to implement the system in other big cities.

Punjab Information Minister Mian Aslam Iqbal apprised the prime minister that the process to establish Price Control Authority in the province was underway while various steps were being considered to keep the market committee viable for checking profiteering and hoarding.

The prime minister was also informed about progress on the implementation of government's decision regarding axle load. He said the decision of suspending axle load condition for one year was aimed at facilitating the business community, besides controlling prices of essential edible items.

The prime minister directed his adviser on trade to ensure that the benefits of the decision must go to the people.

The meeting was attended by Minister for Planning Makhdum Khusro Bakhtyar, Minister for Energy Omar Ayub, Punjab Revenue Minister Makhdoom Hashim Jawan Bakht, Adviser on Trade Abdul Razak Dawood, Adviser on Finance Abdul Hafiz Shaikh, secretaries of various ministries and senior officials.—APP

Revenue shortfall rises to Rs162bn in July-Oct

Return filing deadline extended to Nov 30

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Amid ongoing review meetings with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the country's revenue shortfall continued to expand rather dramatically in October as the government extended the deadline for filing of tax returns for another month.

Senior officials at the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) said the provisional revenue collection in first four months of this year amounted to Rs1.28 trillion, as against a target of Rs1.447tr.

This took the 4-month shortfall to about Rs167bn, from Rs113bn at September end. The gap was slightly brought down to Rs162bn after book adjustments of about Rs5bn. Net collections were put at Rs1,284tr, higher by 16 per cent year-on-year, over Rs1,104tr in same period of 2018.

According to the officials, revenue collection in October stood at Rs320bn versus monthly target of Rs376bn, leaving a shortfall of about Rs55bn. However, the proceeds were about 15pc higher than same month last year.

The officials said a total of about Rs34bn was refunded to the taxpayers, including Rs4bn in October.

FBR Chairman Syed Shabbar Zaidi tweeted "Alhamdulillah, FBR has collected Rs 320 billion during the month October 2019 and has maintained overall increase over last year of 16 percent and domestic tax over 25 percent. This is after taking into account negative aspect of import contraction of around Rs 50 billion"

Giving details of the collection, officials said the biggest chunk of Rs566bn was achieved through sales tax in four months, followed by about Rs468bn through income and about Rs209bn in customs. The remaining Rs137bn came were collected via other taxes including Rs71bn in federal excise duty.

The government has set a revenue target of Rs5.555tr for this fiscal year as part of $6bn Extended Fund Facility with IMF, whose mission is currently in town for review of first quarter performance.

Meanwhile, FBR extended the deadline for filing of income tax returns of individuals and associations of persons for TY19 until November 30. "The date of filing of Total Income/Statements of final taxation for Individuals and Associations of Persons for the Tax Year 2019 which were due on September 30, 2019 and extended upto October 31, 2019 is hereby further extended upto November 30, 2019", said an FBR notification.

It said the deadline was extended and Section 214A of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001 in respect of those companies who have paid 95pc of the admitted tax liability on or before Sept 30.

The FBR had earlier announced to charge Rs40,000 fine to persons for failing to submit their returns by Oct 31 but did not go ahead with it. The sources said the Pakistan Tax Bar Association had warned the FBR against any fine saying the revenue body was more to be blamed for fewer returns than filed last fiscal year.

The association had told the FBR in writing that total returns by Oct 31 deadline were close to one million compared to 1.6m filings of t he last year. It informed that the relevant SRO951 and revised return form was issued by FBR in the last week of August and uploaded on IRIS website in the first week of September.

This meant about two months had already been wasted by FBR for which tax payers should be punished. The association had demanded extension in deadline until Dec 31.

Farmers can use EWR for bank loan

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) on Thursday allowed the farming community to use Electronic Warehouse Receipt (EWR) as collateral for lending against agriculture produce and commodities.

The move will allow farmers, traders, and processors to avail financing facility from banks and improve access to formal credit, reduce losses arising from wastage of agricultural commodities after harvest, increase farmer profitability and reduce risks of banks by allowing agricultural commodity as alternate collateral.

The central bank notified the Collateral Management Company Regulations 2019, under the Companies Act 2017 to promote warehouse receipt financing and electronic trading of agricultural commodities.

Reserves up

KARACHI: Reserves held by the State Bank of Pakistan rose by $21.6 million to $7.934 billion during the week ended on Oct 25.

On the other, holdings of the commercial banks dipped by $318.4m to $7.175bn, which brought the country's total liquid reserves down by net $96.8m to $15.09bn.

Saudi Arabia expects $50bn budget deficit

DUBAI: Saudi Arabia expects its state budget deficit to widen to 187 billion riyals ($49.86bn) next year, or 6.5 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP)from a projected 130bn riyals for this year, the finance minister said on Thursday.

The world's largest oil exporter expects revenues of 833bn riyals for 2020, down from 917bn riyals projected for 2019, Mohammed al-Jadaan told a news briefing.

Spending is expected at 1.02 trillion riyals for 2020 versus 1.048tr projected in 2019, the minister said ahead of the final budget announcement later this year.

Saudi Arabia had recently restrained crude production by more than called for by an Opec-led supply deal to support oil markets. But concern about slowing oil demand and the weakening global economy have kept prices under pressure.

Public debt in 2020 is expected to rise to 26pc of GDP at 754bn riyals versus 678bn projected for 2019, Jadaan said.

Real GDP growth is expected at 2.3pc next year compared with a projected 0.9pc in 2019, he added.

The International Monetary Fund said in its World Economic Outlook report published earlier this month that it expected Saudi Arabia's economy to grow 0.2pc this year due largely to oil output cuts.

The Saudi economy, the largest in the Arab world, has suffered in recent years because of low oil prices and austerity measures aimed at reducing a huge budget deficit.—Reuters

Bulls toss index above 34,000-level

By Our Equities Correspondent

KARACHI: Bulls staged a surprise rally on Thursday which sent the KSE-100 index up to intraday high by 545 points. The closing was seen above the 34,000-level at 34,204, registering increase of 442 points (1.31 per cent).

The political scenario remained murky with the JUI (F) Azadi march knocking the doors of the federal capital. The uncertainty of events following the entry into Islamabad by the protestors kept investors on tenterhooks. But the reason that set the market fears aside was the further drop in Pakistan Investment Bonds auction a day earlier.

Analysts said that yields declined especially in 10-year instrument that fortified the view of rate cut in the upcoming monetary policy. Announcement of next auction before the next monetary policy also helped money managers take a view that the yields will decrease further or at least remain the same.

It raised hopes of flow of funds back to equities from fixed income securities. The market was also supported by the end of traders' strike after they reached an agreement with the Federal Board of Revenue.

Foreigners decided to book profit with net sale of shares valued at $2.05 million. Banks and mutual funds offloaded shares, but the liquidity was absorbed by insurance companies, individuals and brokers.

The volume surged 42pc to 185.9m shares while the traded value also increased by 37pc to $44.1m. Worldcall, Bank of Punjab, Maple Leaf Cement, Pakistan Petroleum and Siddiqsons Tin Plate, collectively contributed nearly a third of the aggregate turnover. Buying activity was observed across the board.

Major gaining scrips were Engro Corporation, up 2.72pc, MCB 3.36pc, Dawood Hercules 4.99pc, Pakistan Petroleum 2.24pc, Pakistan State Oil 5pc, United Bank 1.88pc, Lucky Cement 1.84pc, Habib Bank 0.67pc, DG Khan Cement 0.67pc and Oil and Gas Development Company 0.69pc.

PAKISTAN STOCK EXCHANGE

THE TOP FIVERS

GAINERS		LOSERS		LEADERS*	
Colgate Palm	87.59	Nestle Pakistan	245.00	WorldCall Telecom	24
Bata (Pak)	45.00	Pak Tobacco XD	118.18	Bank of Punjab	9
Service Ind. Ltd	38.24	Island Textile	96.56	Maple Leaf XDIR	9
Wyeth Pak Ltd	21.73	Sapphire Fiber XD	31.77	Pak Petroleum XDIR	6
Mari Petroleum	17.38	Sapphire Tex X (R)	27.43	Siddiqsons Tin	6

(Share values in rupees) * Volume in millions of traded shares

INDICATORS	Thursday	Previous	Change
KSE 100-SHARE INDEX (Points)	34,203.68	33,761.41	▲ 442.27
KSE 30-SHARE INDEX (Points)	13,937.71	13,752.45	▲ 185.26
MARKET CAPITAL (Rs billion)	6,690.045	6,665.895	▲ 24.350
TRADING VALUE (Rs billion)	6.868	5.008	▲ 1.860

ACTIVITY

Total Isted	558
Active	355
Gainers	235
Losers	101

PARTICIPANTS

Foreign	▼ $2.05m
Companies	▲ $0.72m
Banks	▼ $1.05m
Mutual Funds	▼ $1.82m
Individuals	▲ $1.12m

KSE FLUCTUATIONS ON PAGE 11

PAKISTAN STOCK EXCHANGE

COMPANY	High	Low	Closing	Change	Volume
CLOSE-END MUTUAL FUND					
Golden Arrow	9.70	9.00	9.00	0.00	268,500
NCCPL Fund	—	—	13.47	—	—
MODARABAS					
Allied Rent A1	—	—	11.00	—	—
B.F.M.Modaraba (C)	4.11	4.04	4.04	0.03	3,500
Habib Modaraba (C)	9.75	9.51	9.53	0.00	29,000
Paramount Mod (B)	5.60	5.40	5.52	0.09	1,000
UDL Modaraba	—	—	5.00	—	—
LEASING COMPANIES					
Best Capital	—	—	4.98	—	—
Chcc Leasing (C)	22.00	22.00	22.00	0.00	99,500
Security Leasing	—	—	4.90	—	—
INV.BANKS / INV.COS. / SECURITIES COS.					
AH Habib Ltd.	32.50	32.00	32.00	(0.50)	31,500
Jahangir Siddiqui	9.00	8.80	8.80	0.00	259,500
JS Global Cap	—	—	10.00	—	—
JS Investments	—	—	17.00	—	—
KASB Securities	—	—	19.75	—	—
Pak Oman Investment	8.90	8.75	8.90	0.15	127,000
COMMERCIAL BANKS					
Allied Bank Ltd. (C)	82.00	80.75	80.75	0.67	36,700
Askari Bank	16.00	17.75	17.00	0.00	169,000
Bank Alfalah	39.50	38.90	38.90	0.00	1,140,000
Bank Al-Habib	89.40	88.00	88.00	0.00	89,000
Bank Of Punjab	11.00	10.90	11.02	0.02	4,500
B.I.O.Punjab	10.00	9.70	10.01	0.01	5,884,000
Faysal Bank	17.00	16.80	17.01	0.00	31,500
Habib Bank	104.39	101.25	101.55	0.00	662,400
Habib Metropolitan	31.50	31.05	31.11	(0.14)	77,500
JS Bank Ltd.	4.40	4.40	4.40	0.00	1,000
MCB Bank Ltd.(C)	174.90	172.00	172.00	0.00	1,500
Meezan Bank	79.00	76.03	78.12	0.17	1,035,000
National Bank	45.90	44.66	45.27	0.56	1,203,000
Soneri Bank Ltd.	9.40	9.40	9.40	0.00	1,000
United Bank (C)	136.01	132.00	132.00	0.00	605,000
INSURANCE					
Adamjee Ins.	7.00	7.00	7.00	0.00	3,000
Adamjee Life	51.49	50.07	51.40	0.43	190,000
Century Insurance	70.70	70.00	70.00	0.00	5,000
Cyan Limited	—	—	24.13	—	—
EFU General	65.20	65.04	64.52	0.27	189,000
EFU Life Ass.	354.01	350.01	350.01	4.00	500
Habib Insurance	9.38	9.00	9.00	0.00	7,500
IGI Insurance	—	—	8.00	—	—
IGI Life Ins.	—	—	16.00	—	—
Jubilee Life Ins.	—	—	48.00	—	—
Pak Reinsurance	20.49	20.49	20.49	0.00	30,000
Premier Ins.	—	—	9.99	—	—
TPL Insurance	—	—	25.06	—	—
United Insurance	8.19	8.00	8.04	0.04	11,000
TEXTILE SPINNING					
Apollo Textile (C)	—	—	44.00	—	—
Babri Cotton	—	—	51.99	—	—
Crescent Cotton	—	—	26.50	—	—
Dawood Fibres Ind Pk	1.80	1.80	1.80	0.00	21,000
Gadoon Textile	150.00	150.00	150.01	0.01	53,000
Kohinoor Spinning	1.40	1.38	1.39	0.01	500,000
Nagina Cotton (C)	—	—	40.00	—	—
Premium Ltd. (C)	277.00	220.01	277.00	0.99	5,400
Saif Textile (C)	10.00	10.00	14.64	0.00	5,000
Sitara Textile	—	—	14.75	—	—
Sunrise Textile	—	—	32.95	—	—
TEXTILE COMPOSITE					
Artistic Denim (C)	52.00	50.99	52.00	1.75	1,000
Azgard Nine	11.50	11.26	11.34	0.01	565,000
Bawany Tex. (C)	300.00	300.00	300.00	1.00	1,100
Chenab Tex. (C)	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	65,000
Chenab Ltd.	—	—	199.00	—	—
Dai Nichi Text. (C)	27.50	26.71	26.94	0.19	579,000
Dewan Cotton	—	—	4.90	—	—
Khyber Textile	—	—	248.75	—	—
Kohinoor Mills (C)	—	—	35.25	—	—
Kohinoor Ind.	5.26	2.77	5.09	0.24	165,000
Kohinoor Textile (C)	28.00	27.00	27.62	0.19	109,000
Nishat Mills (C)	57.00	55.00	55.00	0.00	500
Nishat (Chun) (C)	52.00	50.25	52.47	2.01	447,000
Nishat Mills Ltd (C)	84.98	82.00	84.25	1.45	1,124,000
SYNTHETIC & RAYON					
Dawood Hercul.	—	—	8.54	—	—
Pak Synthetics (P)	13.23	13.23	13.23	0.23	500
SUGAR & ALLIED INDUSTRIES					
Al-Abbas Sugar	211.00	210.00	210.67	0.67	4,400
Asian Sugar	—	—	10.98	—	—
Al-Noor Sugar	44.75	44.00	44.75	0.75	1,000
Faran Sugar	50.01	46.25	49.49	1.47	11,000
Habib Allied Int. (C)	40.00	40.00	40.49	0.49	9,500
JDW Sugar	—	—	105.00	—	—
Mehran Sugar	—	—	20.01	—	—
Noon Sugar	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	2,000
Shahmurad Sugar	111.00	111.00	111.00	5.00	3,000
Shakarganj Limited	38.00	38.00	38.00	1.00	2,000
CEMENT					
Attock Cement	89.99	79.01	90.99	0.99	65,000
Chakwal Cement(CW)	16.54	16.00	16.54	1.74	1,200,000
Cherat Cement (C)	59.63	57.01	59.63	2.63	2,060,000
Fauji Cement	19.73	19.10	19.54	0.52	5,236,000
Flying Cement (C)	19.50	19.00	19.50	0.50	31,000
Gharibwal Cement (C)	9.95	9.40	9.55	0.55	165,000
Javedan Corp (C)	20.72	20.00	20.00	1.21	10,000
Kohat Cement (C)	180.00	169.00	180.00	2.77	414,000
Lucky Cement	369.00	364.00	367.00	0.36	1,281,600
Maple Leaf (C)	—	—	17.99	—	—
Pioneer Cement	83.98	82.00	83.98	1.98	605,000
TOBACCO					
Pak Tobacco (C)	2010.00	2000.10	2000.10	19.19	4.00
Shahtaj Tobacco	816.00	816.00	816.00	0.00	1,100
REFINERY					
Attock Refinery	90.00	87.00	90.04	3.95	3,219,500
Byco Petroleum	9.25	8.88	9.25	0.70	998,000
National Refinery	117.49	114.30	116.79	2.30	453,000
Pak Refinery	16.00	15.71	16.00	0.00	1,317,000
POWER GEN. & DISTRIBUTION					
Altern Energy (C)	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.25	1,000
Engro Powergen	33.98	33.24	33.52	4.07	2,000
Hub Power Co	75.55	73.20	73.55	0.37	1,478,000
Kot Addu Power (C)	91.23	90.20	90.71	0.63	668,000
Lalpir Power	21.50	21.00	21.00	0.00	1,000
Nishat (Chun) Power	15.80	15.20	15.35	0.06	1,000,000
Nishat Power	31.00	30.00	30.00	0.00	1,000
Saif Power Ltd	77.50	76.75	76.95	0.19	201,500
OIL & GAS MARKETING COMPANIES					
Attock Petroleum	325.00	299.00	302.00	2.71	23,000
Byco Petroleum (PS) (C)	22.37	20.01	20.01	0.00	1,000
Hascol Petrol	36.00	34.40	34.40	1.61	1,240,000
PSO (C) 000	249.00	240.00	244.02	7.03	3,602,000
Shell Pakistan	195.40	191.21	192.87	1.66	111,000
Sui Nor.Gas Pipe	67.90	66.61	67.54	1.29	1,090,500
Sui South Gas	17.50	17.05	17.44	0.44	1,000,000
OIL & GAS EXPLORATION COMPANIES					
Mari Petroleum (C)(00)	1246.75	1210.00	1240.01	17.03	56,100
Oil & Gas Devel.(C)	135.80	127.66	128.77	0.48	2,004,400
Pak Oilfields	395.00	389.00	390.00	0.66	153,500
Pak Petroleum (C)(00)	116.39	113.26	115.01	2.52	3,259,000
ENGINEERING					
Aisha Steel	—	—	16.00	—	—
Amreli Steels	39.70	38.00	39.70	0.70	4,000
Dadex Eternit	—	—	18.50	—	—
International Ind. (C)	75.99	77.00	75.10	1.00	486,000
Mid Steel Ltd	45.00	45.00	44.30	1.00	1,075,000
S.G.S.Pumps	36.00	36.00	36.00	0.00	100
AUTOMOBILE ASSEMBLER					
Al Ghazi Tractors	370.00	368.00	367.00	0.00	600
Atlas Honda Ltd	370.00	368.00	370.00	7.00	3,700
Ghandhara Ind.	70.70	70.00	70.40	0.41	537,500
Ghandhara Nissan	50.00	48.00	48.97	0.02	136,000
Honda Atlas Cars	196.00	191.00	193.49	2.49	118,400
Hinopak Motor	284.00	271.00	271.07	0.86	3,800
Indus Motor Co. (C)	850.00	828.00	832.00	6.00	300
Millat Tractors(C)(00)	790.00	765.75	780.04	4.31	16,950
Pak Suzuki	180.00	176.00	178.00	1.00	65,000
Sazgar Eng.	200.00	196.00	198.19	0.63	1,500
AUTOMOBILE PARTS & ACCESSORIES					
Agriauto Ind. (C)	—	—	126.00	—	—
Allied Bank	86.45	83.00	86.00	1.67	7,700
Baluchistan Wh. (C)	19.60	19.50	19.50	0.67	6
Exide (Pak)	139.00	139.70	139.79	0.05	300
General Tyre(XD)	87.00	87.00	87.00	0.00	400,000
Thal Limited (C)	240.00	240.00	240.00	0.00	2,000
CABLE & ELECTRICAL GOODS					
Pak Elektron	19.58	19.00	19.77	0.27	2,060,000
Pakistan Cables	—	—	127.00	—	—
Siemens Pak	750.00	750.00	750.00	15.00	300
Singer Pak (C)	—	—	32.77	—	—
TRANSPORTS					
PNSC (P)	—	—	8.87	—	—
Pak Int Bulk	10.80	9.88	10.14	0.15	3,360,000
Pak Int Cont	185.00	181.00	181.47	1.53	4,800
PNSC (C)	75.00	75.00	75.44	4.75	31,500
TECHNOLOGY & COMMUNICATION					
Avanceon Ltd	30.26	31.75	30.00	1.00	1,402,500
Hum Network	3.64	3.55	3.55	0.05	159,000
Media Times Ltd	1.00	0.98	0.98	0.00	39,000
Netsol Tech. Ltd	58.00	54.99	55.19	0.22	695,000
PTCL	7.56	7.08	7.42	0.09	274,500
Systems Limited	89.00	86.00	86.71	1.06	51,500
Telecard Limited	1.40	1.36	1.37	0.01	103,500
TRG Pak Ltd	14.60	14.20	14.48	0.48	4,160,500
World Call Telecom	1.42	1.40	1.42	0.02	2,000,000
FERTILISER					
Engro Fertilizer	71.60	70.00	71.00	0.65	1,860,000
Engro Corp	267.00	266.00	266.00	7.00	1,200,600
Fatima Fert.	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.02	21,000
Fauji Fert Bin	77.00	76.00	77.07	0.75	2,000,000
Fauji Fert.	71.00	69.50	70.73	0.73	1,000,000
PHARMACEUTICALS					
Abbott Lab.	649.00	613.01	614.99	0.99	4,700
Ferozsons Lab. (C)	176.80	167.01	170.01	4.00	401,500
GlaxoSmithKline	124.99	120.01	121.98	0.03	396,100
Highnoon Lab.	399.49	392.00	392.44	0.00	21,500
Searle Pak.	75.00	73.00	73.00	0.00	5,000
Sanofi Aventis	534.13	530.01	530.01	0.00	500
The Searle Comp.(C)	178.00	170.00	173.04	0.68	1,004,800
CHEMICAL					
Archroma Pak	545.00	530.00	530.00	1.07	6,200
Rohm Nohas Pak	99.00	96.01	97.07	1.06	15,500
ICI Pakistan Ltd.	—	—	370.00	—	—
Sitara Peroxide	16.25	15.70	15.95	0.24	36,500
Wah Nobel (C)	—	—	220.00	—	—
PAPER & BOARD					
Century Paper	34.00	33.75	33.95	0.11	35,000
Cherat Pack.(CW)	58.80	53.77	55.20	1.40	242,500
Mtehi Packaging	13.70	13.50	13.53	0.03	12,500
Packages Ltd	220.00	202.00	207.37	1.00	26,500
Security Paper (CW)	38.01	38.01	38.01	2.99	500
VANASPATI & ALLIED INDUSTRIES					
Punjab Oil (C)	150.40	148.00	148.00	0.01	500
LEATHER & TANNERIES					
Service Ind. (C)	12.40	12.00	12.00	0.00	6,000
Tanmia Ind. Ltd	800.0	775.00	800.0	18.24	20,000
FOOD & PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS					
Clover Pakistan	59.00	56.00	59.00	4.00	3,000
Engro Foods Ltd	—	—	82.00	—	—
Fauji Foods Ltd	—	—	7.00	—	—
Rfl. Health Care	—	—	108.00	—	—
Mehmood Text.	—	—	220.00	—	—
Murree Brewery (C)	680.00	680.00	680.00	(8.00)	50
National Foods (CW)	150.00	150.00	151.00	0.15	1,500
Nestle MW Food	—	—	140.00	—	—
Shezan Intl. (C)	—	—	350.00	—	—
Treet Corp	77.71	76.75	76.90	0.00	1,474,500
Unilever Foods	—	—	6700.00	—	—
ZIL Limited	109.00	101.00	109.10	0.10	7,500
GLASS & CERAMICS					
Ghani Glass Ltd.	40.70	39.65	39.65	0.00	11,500
Shabbir Tiles (C)	9.70	9.50	9.69	0.01	1,038,500
Tariq Glass Ind (C)	67.00	65.25	66.16	0.15	84,500
MISCELLANEOUS					
AKD Capital	—	—	76.80	—	—
Pak Hotels	180.00	156.00	160.37	0.00	200
Service Ind.(Shoe) (C)	67.00	66.00	66.00	0.00	1,500
Synthetic Prod	31.50	30.40	31.45	2.08	312,500
Tri-Pack Films	92.00	90.00	92.00	2.00	100,000

COMMODITIES

Cotton touches season's new peak of Rs9,750 on brisk buying

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: Cotton prices on Thursday touched the Rs9,750 per maund as buying intensified.

Brokers said list prices are likely to cross the Rs10,000 per maund mark in coming days as short crop continues to create panic among textile spinning mills.

According to market sources a deal from Ghotki materialized at a record price of Rs9,750 per maund while 2,000 bales from Rahim Yar Khan were done at Rs9,650 to Rs9,700 per maund on ready counter.

Much of the buying originated from textile mills which have no ITRE facility and depend on local cotton. However, those mills which can avail the remission of duty and taxes scheme are seeking imports.

On global front New York and Chinese cotton continued to firm up for all future contracts. However, Indian cotton remained under pressure owing to reports of bumper cotton crop.

The Karachi Cotton Association (KCA) spot rates were raised by Rs100 more to Rs6,450 per maund.

The following deals were reported to have changed hands on ready counter: 3,400 bales, station Ghotki, at Rs9,700; 1,000 bales, Khairpur, at Rs9,000-9,100; 2,000 bales, Rahim Yar Khan, at Rs9,650-9,700; 1,000 bales, Mianwali, at Rs9,475-9,500; 600 bales, Sadiqabad, at Rs9,700; 400 bales, Marrot, at Rs9,500; and 600bales, Haroonabad, at Rs9,400.

The following are Thursday's Karachi Cotton Association (KCA) official spot rates for the crop (2019-20) local dealings in Pak rupees for base grade 3 staple length 1-1/16" micronair value between 3.8 to 4.9 NCL.

Rate for	Ex-Gin Price	Upcountry Expenses	Spot rate Ex-Karachi
37.324kg	9,350	160	9,510
Equivalent 40kg	10,020	171	10,191

Palm oil closes lower, ending six-day rally

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian palm oil futures retreated after touching a 19-month high earlier on Thursday, as the ringgit gained and as panic buying emerged due to an expected supply shortage died down.

The benchmark palm oil contract for January delivery on the Bursa Malaysia Derivatives Exchange closed 0.4 per cent lower at 2,485 ringgit ($595) per tonne, ending a six session rally.

The firm ringgit coupled with the view that the contract had been overbought triggered the downturn in late trade, a Kuala Lumpur-based trader told Reuters.

The ringgit rose as high as 0.2pc against the dollar on Thursday, making the edible oil more expensive for holders of foreign currencies. This comes after palm saw its biggest weekly jump in nearly three years as rival oils clocked record highs.

Prices rallied over the past week on expectations that consumption will surge thanks to Indonesia and Malaysia's push for biofuel, as well as rumours of declining supply.—Reuters

Gold gains as dollar weakens

LONDON: Gold rose on Thursday as the dollar came under pressure after the US Federal Reserve cut interest rates while uncertainty surrounding a US-China trade deal bolstered the metal's appeal as a safe-haven investment.

Prices also got a further boost after US weekly jobless claims rose more than expected last week.

Spot gold climbed 0.9 per cent to $1,507.98 an ounce by 1258 GMT, having earlier risen to a nearly one-week high of $1509.80. Prices were set for a monthly gain of more than 2pc.

US gold futures were up 0.9pc at $1,510.40.

The US central bank on Wednesday cut interest rates for the third time this year to help to sustain US growth despite a slowdown in other parts of the world.

"While the central bank signalled a pause in further cuts for now, it also seemed to pre-commit to keep rates low for the foreseeable future," said Ilya Spivak, a senior currency strategist at DailyFx, adding that a resulting dip in US Treasury bond yields and the dollar were helping gold.

The US dollar fell to a more than one-week low against leading rivals.

Silver rose 1.1pc to $18.06 an ounce while platinum firmed by 0.9pc to $933.87, with both metals set for monthly gains.—Reuters

MARKETS

FOREX

Exchange Rates for Currency Notes (Rs)

	Interbank market* Buying	Interbank market* Selling	Open market** Buying	Open market** Selling
USA	155.55	155.65	155.40	155.70
UK	200.85	201.51	200.50	201.50
Euro	173.58	174.15	173.50	174.50
S.Arabia	41.47	41.71	41.30	41.45
UAE	42.38	42.54	42.30	42.45
Japan	1.4302	1.4349	1.4200	1.4600

*forex.com.pk **ECAP

BULLION

Per 10 grams (Rs)

	Gold	Silver
KARACHI (24-k)	▲ 75,446	▲ 874.48
MULTAN (24-k)	▲ 74,330	▲ 883.00
LAHORE (24-k)	▲ 74,503	▲ —

OIL

Spot rates per barrel ($)

Dubai crude	60.88
British Brent	60.13
US WTI	53.82

KIBOR

Karachi Interbank offered rates

	Bid	Offer
Three months	13.07	13.32
Six months	13.08	13.33
One year	12.78	13.28

TENDER

One of the leading Ground Handling Company requires the proposal for outsource manpower with wheel chair services for our Lahore and Islamabad stations .Vendor will be responsible for providing services skilled manpower and qualified staff up to an agreed uptime target . this service is required for 24/7, 365 days a year. Interested parties are requested to submit their profile till 03rd November 2019 on email: "lendex.aviationgk@gmail.com"

The company reserves the rights for acceptance / rejection / cancellation of the application without assigning any reason.

SilkBank to delay results

KARACHI: Silk Bank has been given an option by the State Bank of Pakistan to stagger the publication of its third quarter's financial statements until Dec 15. This was due to a delay in the collateral valuation of some clients, the bank said in a press release on Thursday.

SUBJECT: **CANCELLATION OF ITEM COMPUTER DESKTOP**

Tender Notice No. "INF/KRY/53/02/19 published in different Newspapers (Daily Dawn dated: 24-09-2019, Daily Jang dated: 25-09-2019, Daily Kawish & Daily Umat dated: 22-09-2019), regarding Procurement of Computer Equipment for Sindh Police. The item i.e. Computer Desktop at Serial No. 01 is hereby cancelled.

AIGP/Logistics
For Inspector General of Police,
Sindh Karachi

INF/ADV: 5689/19 | Say No to Corruption

NATIONAL TRANSMISSION & DESPATCH CO. LTD.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

TENDER NO. TLC-09-2019
CIVIL WORKS, ERECTION, STRINGING, TESTING AND COMMISSIONING OF 500KV DOUBLE CIRCUIT QUAD BUNDLE TRANSMISSION LINES FOR INTERCONNECTION OF TEL, THAL NOVA, SIDDIQUE SONS AND SECL COAL POWER PLANTS WITH THAR-MATIARI CIRCUIT (APPROX. 96KM)

1. National Transmission and Dispatch Company (NTDC) a corporate entity constituted after restructuring of WAPDA invites sealed bids from the eligible firms/bidders for "**Civil works, Erection, Stringing, Testing and Commissioning of 500KV Double Circuit Quad Bundle Transmission Lines for Interconnection of TEL, Thal Nova, Siddique Sons and SECL Coal Power Plants with Thar-Matiari Circuit (Approx. 96KM)**" on basis of National Competitive Bidding (NCB) through Single Stage Single Envelop Procedure (SSSE).
2. Bidding documents, containing detailed terms and conditions, etc. are available at the following address given below, during office hours **(9:00 am to 5:00 pm)**.
Chief Engineer (Material Procurement and Management), NTDC, 8th Floor, Shaheen Complex, Egerton Road, Lahore.
Telephone: +92-42-99202597
Fax number: +92-42-99202173
E-mail address: cempm@ntdc.com.pk
3. Price of the bidding documents is **Rs. 5000/-**, the method of payment will be by a non-refundable fee in form of bank draft from any scheduled bank of Pakistan in favor of Chief Engineer (MP&M) NTDC. The documents may be collected in person or may be sent by express airmail for an additional fee of **Rs. 2,000/-** for domestic delivery, the documents may be sent by courier services. No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery in such case. Bidding Document can also be downloaded from NTDC website i.e. **www.ntdc.com.pk** free of cost, however, purchase of Bidding Document is compulsory for participation.
4. The bids, prepared in accordance with the instructions in the bidding documents, must reach at above address on or before **26th November, 2019 at 11:00 AM PST**. Bids will be opened the same day at **11:30 AM**. This advertisement is also available on PPRA and NTDC websites (**www.ppra.org.pk** & **www.ntdc.com.pk**).
5. NTDC reserve all its rights regarding rejection of bids as defined in Clause 3(b)(1) of PPRA Rules 2004.

Chief Engineer (MP&M) NTDC
8th Floor, Shaheen Complex,
Egerton Road, Lahore

0000-63 | NTDC – Striving for Reliable Grid | P003/1259
"DONATE FOR DAMER-BASHA & MOHMAND DAMS"

ISLAMABAD ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY LTD.

CORRIGENDUM

IESCO invited Request for Proposal (RFP) from eligible and reputable Auditing firm(s) for "**Special Audit of Treasury/Revenue Management in IESCO" For Financial Year 2014-15 to 2018-19**. The subject tender was published in national press on 17-10-2019. Following amendment is being made in the tender:

1. The RFP shall be submitted upto 11:00 Hours on 18-11-2019 and same will be opened in the presence of bidder / bidder's representative who choose to attend at 11:30 AM on the same day in the office of Finance Director IESCO, Head office, street # 40, G-7/4 Islamabad.
2. All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

Finance Director
Islamabad Electric Supply Company
Street No.40, Sector G-7/4, Islamabad
Phone No.+92-51-9251283 , Fax NO. +92-51-9251286

PPO/2019/19 | SAY NO TO CORRUPTION

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
UTILITY STORES CORPORATION
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES & PRODUCTION

TENDER NOTICE FOR PURCHASE OF RICE

1. Utility Stores Corporation of Pakistan invites sealed tenders / bids for supply of various kinds of Rice packed in 1kg, 2kg & 5kg crystal/transparent poly bags. Evaluation of packed Rice will be done based upon the cost of packing material + allied charges.
2. The quantity of each commodity required to be purchased and delivered at each station. Complete terms and conditions of bidding are contained in the Tender Documents, which can be downloaded from PPRA website i.e **www.ppra.org.pk** and USC website i.e **www.usc.org.pk** and can be collected free of cost from USC Head Office, Islamabad and USC Zonal Offices. A separate Demand Draft/Pay Order for Rs. 1,500/- (Non-Refundable) in favour of USC on account of tender fee be attached at the time of submitting bid/offer.
3. The sealed bids / offers alongwith 10kg sample of each item duly accompanied with earnest money (commodity-wise) at the rate of 5% of the total value of the bid, must reach to the undersigned latest by **19-11-2019** on **Tuesday**, before **01:30 hours**, which will be opened on the same day at **02:00 hours** in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend. (CDR will not be accepted). Offer / Bid without earnest money / short earnest money shall not be entertained. Incomplete, conditional and illegible offers shall not be entertained. Cutting or over writing of rate and quantity on the tender form is not permissible and quotation will be considered void.

PPO/2019/19
General Manager (Procurement)
Utility Stores Corporation of Pakistan (Pvt) Limited
Head Office, Plot No. 2029, F-7/G-7, Jinnah Avenue, Blue Area, Islamabad
Ph: 051-9245136, 9245035 Fax: 051-9245139

NOTICE TO FAYSAL BANK LIMITED CUSTOMERS

The following existing conventional banking branches of **Faysal Bank Limited** will convert to Islamic banking on or around 7th December, 2019, post which all operations of these branches shall be guided by Shari'ah approved principles.

Site Area, Karachi (Branch Code: 0139)
Plot No. B-17 Estate Avenue SITE, Karachi.
Phone No. 021-32585924

North Karachi (Branch Code: 0152)
Plot No. SA-2 Street 1/1, Sector 12-B, North Karachi Township, Karachi.
Phone No. 021-36933307

Kharian (Branch Code: 0162)
Rizwan Plaza, G.T. Road, Kharian, District Gujrat.
Phone No. 053-7536067

Gulistan-e-Jauhar, Karachi (Branch Code: 0174)
Shop No. 28-29, Rufi Lake Drive, Block 18, KDA Scheme No. 36, Karachi.
Phone No. 021-34030556 & 57

Shahalam Market Branch, Lahore (Branch Code: 0179)
5 A-Ç Near Fawara Chowk Shah Alam Market, Lahore.
Phone No. 042-37675619 & 68

University Road Branch, Peshawar (Branch Code: 0191)
Property # 4652-4670, Omer Plaza, Jamrud Road, Jehangirabad (University Road), Peshawar.
Phone No. 091-5711406 & 08

Khyber Bazar, Peshawar (Branch Code: 0192)
Property # 417-D, Outside Bajori Gate, Shoba Chowk, Khyber Bazar, Peshawar.
Phone No. 091-2219860 & 091-6810926

Abbottabad Branch (Branch Code: 0219)
(Block No. 841, Farooqabad (Abbott Garden Hotel Building), Mansehra Road Abbotabad.
Phone No. 0992-863129

UP Mor, Karachi (Branch Code: 0221)
Plot No. R-1, Sector 5-C/4, North Karachi.
Phone No. 021-36961032

Buffer Zone, Karachi (Branch Code: 0222)
Plot No. R-2, Sector 15-A/2, North Karachi Township Karachi.
Phone No. 021-36900086

Burns Road (Branch Code: 0227)
Shop No. 4 & 5, Ground Floor, Lokhat Mansion, Plot Survey No. 2, Sheet A.M. Muhammad Qasim Road (Burns Road), Shahrah-e-Liaqauat (Frere Road), Artillary Maidan Quarters, Karachi.
Phone No. 021-32211133

Gulzar-e-Hijri, Karachi (Branch Code: 0231)
Plot No. A-747/C Block 13-A KDA Scheme No. 33 Pakistan Post Office Employees Co-operative Housing Society Gulzar-e-Hijri Karachi.
Phone No. 021-34652143

Kalma Chowk Branch, Rawalpindi (Branch Code: 0234)
Khasra No. 132, Khatooni No. 35 Mauza Jahawarey, Kamalabad Kalma Chowk, Rawalpindi.
Phone No. 051-5683053-4

Sheikhupura Road, Gujranwala (Branch Code: 0266)
Rehman Market, Sheikhupura Road, Gujranwala.
Phone No. 055-4240152

PWD Society (Branch Code: 0278)
Ground Floor Alfa Arcade, Commercial Area National Police Foundation, Main Boulevard, PWD, Rawalpindi.
Phone No. 051-5706450-51

Tariq Road, Karachi (Branch Code: 0281)
Shop No. 1 & 2, Plot No. 9-C, Block-2, Main Tariq Road, Karachi.
Phone No. 021-35143537

Rawat (Branch Code: 0289)
Office No. 1, Riaz Hussain Shah Plaza, Main G.T. Road, Rawat, Islamabad.
Phone No. 051-3757652

Gunjmandi Branch, Rawalpindi (Branch Code: 0409)
V/528/529, Gunjmandi, Rawalpindi.
Phone No. 051-5539115 & 051-5535988

Metroville (Branch Code: 0436)
ST - 15, Block 3 Metroville-1, Site Karachi.
Phone No. 021-36659926

For Further information, please contact the Branch or our Contact Center at 111 00 08 00 (UAN).

We look forward to further strengthening our relationship with you through seamless conversion of your account to Islamic banking. It is our continuous endeavor to provide you the best service experience with new and innovative products.

Faysal Bank Limited

www.faysalbank.com | faysalbank

Death toll from Yemen's war hits 100,000

CAIRO: Yemen's civil war has killed more than 100,000 people since 2015, a database project that tracks violence said on Thursday.

The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project, or ACLED, said in a new report its death toll includes more than 12,000 civilians killed in attacks targeting civilians directly.

The conflict in the Arab world's poorest nation began with the 2014 takeover of northern and central Yemen by Iran-aligned rebels, driving out the internationally recognised government from the capital, Sanaa. Months later, in March 2015, a Saudi-led coalition launched its air campaign to prevent the rebels, known as Houthis, from overrunning the country's south.

Saudi-led airstrikes have hit schools, hospitals and wedding parties and killed thousands of Yemeni civilians. The Houthis have used drones and missiles to attack Saudi Arabia and have targeted vessels in the Red Sea.

Civilians have suffered the most in the conflict, which has created what the United Nations says is the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

ACLED said approximately 20,000 people have been killed this year, already making 2019 the second deadliest year on record after 2018, with 30,800 dead.

The non-governmental organisation said April was the most lethal month so far this year, with over 2,500 reported killed, compared to approximately 1,700 in September.

It said up to 1,100 civilians have been killed so far in 2019, with targeted anti-civilian violence was centered in the provinces of Dhale, Hodeida, Hajjah and Taiz.

The project said the Saudi-led coalition and its allies were responsible for more than 8,000 deaths resulting from the direct targeting of civilians since 2015, and the coalition airstrikes caused around 67pc of all reported civilian deaths.

ACLED said that although the number of Saudi-led coalition airstrikes is at an all-time low, civilian fatalities from air raids have risen for the first time since the end of 2017, more than doubling in the third quarter of 2019, compared to the previous quarter, primarily due to a strike on a prison facility in Dhamar province that killed at least 130 detainees.

The group said it recorded over 19,000 people killed in the southwestern province of Taiz since 2015, making it the most violent province in Yemen, largely due to a four-year siege by the Houthis, the group said.—AP

Mongolia arrests 800 Chinese citizens in cybercrime probe

ULAANBAATAR: Police in the Mongolian capital of Ulaanbaatar have apprehended 800 Chinese citizens and confiscated hundreds of computers and mobile phone SIM cards as part of an investigation into a cybercrime ring, local security authorities said.

The arrests took place after police raided four locations on Tuesday, and followed two months of investigations, Gotel Dorjgalam, the head of the General Intelligence Agency of Mongolia, said at a media briefing on Wednesday.

He did not go into specific details of the offences but said they involved illegal gambling, fraud, computer hacking, identity theft and money laundering. "As of this moment we suspect they are linked to money laundering," he said. "We are looking into the matter."

All of the 800 Chinese citizens in detention came to Mongolia using 30-day tourist visas.

The Chinese Embassy in Ulaanbaatar said in a statement that it would cooperate with the Mongolian police.

"The police department of Mongolia has taken the necessary measures in this case and is currently in the process of investigating," it said. "China and Mongolia will have open law enforcement and security cooperation, and the two parties will be working closely together on this matter."

A month ago, 324 undocumented Chinese citizens were arrested in the Philippines on charges of running illegal online gaming activities and engaging in cyberfraud, according to a notice by the country's immigration bureau.

Mongolia saw about 480,000 foreign tourists enter in the first three quarters of this year, up 10.7 per cent, with Chinese citizens accounting for nearly a third of the total.—Reuters

CIA-trained Afghan forces accused of atrocities

By Anwar Iqbal

WASHINGTON: A US advocacy group, Human Rights Watch (HRW), accused CIA-backed Afghan paramilitaries on Thursday of committing extrajudicial executions, orchestrating enforced disappearances and attacking medical facilities.

The hard-hitting report also details changes in the US targeting rules which, HRW says, have led to indiscriminate airstrikes being called in by those forces and causing disproportionate harm to civilians.

The report — *They've Shot Many Like This: Abusive Night Raids by CIA-Backed Afghan Strike Forces* — has alleged documented individual cases of abuses by CIA-backed Afghan paramilitary forces. It claims that the abuses follow set patterns,which are repeated and widespread in every province wherever such units operate.

Human Rights Watch claims that the 14 case studies documented in this report are "illustrative of a larger pattern of serious laws-of-war violations—some amounting to war crimes".

The report covers the period from late 2017 to mid-2019. The report also delves into the command and control of these "strike forces", including the role of the CIA, the US military and the lack of oversight by the Afghan government.

Author of the report Patricia Gossman claims that such actions do not only affect immediate families but have also "consigned entire communities to the terror of abusive night raids and indiscriminate airstrikes".

The report argues that in the absence of a larger political settlement, any agreement between the US and Taliban would not end the armed conflict between the Afghan government and the Taliban, nor resolve a range of conflicts that have fuelled fighting among various Afghan factions for over four decades.

Even if there is a political settlement, "the kind of Afghan government that emerges, the structure of the country's defence forces, and the extent to which existing militia and insurgent forces demobilise and disarm will all be critically important", the report adds.

'Glaring omission'

The report notes that "one glaring omission" in the peace negotiations so far has been discussion of the future of clandestine Afghan forces operating as part of the covert operations of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Afghanistan.

Such units get ground support from US special forces seconded to the CIA and air support from the US military, including intelligence and surveillance in the identification of targets.

Several US military officials have sought to retain these Afghan paramilitary forces in Afghanistan as a bulwark against Al Qaeda and the Islamic State. These troops include "Afghan strike forces who have been responsible for extrajudicial executions and enforced disappearances, indiscriminate airstrikes, attacks on medical facilities, and other violations of international humanitarian law, or the laws of war," the report claims.

Cases documented by HRW

Afghan paramilitary forces raid the home of a staff member of an Afghan NGO in March 2018. The forces arrived late at night at the family compound and separated the women from the men.

They singled out the staff member's brother and took him to another part of the house. They shot him, leaving the body, and left with another male family member, whom the government later denied holding.

In October 2018, an Afghan paramilitary force unit raided a home in the Rodat district of Nangarhar province, shooting dead five civilian members of one family, including an elderly woman and child.

In December 2018, the Khost Protection Force fatally shot six civilians during a night search operation in Paktia province. They shot Naim Farrugi, a 60-year-old tribal elder and provincial peace council member, in the eye, and his nephew, a student in his 20s, in the mouth.

"These are not isolated cases," the report claims. "They are illustrative of a larger pattern of serious laws-of-war violations — some amounting to war crimes — that extends to all provinces in Afghanistan where these paramilitary forces operate with impunity."

ABDUL Jabbar, who lost four members of his family, shows the list of villagers who were killed in an air strike on Sept 19 in Jalalabad, Afghanistan.—AP

Lebanon sit-ins continue amid deadlock

BEIRUT: Lebanese protesters faced off with security forces on Thursday as they tried to block reopened roads and prevent their unprecedented non-sectarian push for radical reform from petering out.

The resignation of Prime Minister Saad Hariri's government on Tuesday had been met with cheers from the crowds seeking the removal of a political class seen as corrupt, incompetent and sectarian.

The fall of the government under pressure from the street had led to an easing of the lockdown that has crippled the country of six million inhabitants.

While some life returned to the streets of Beirut and other cities this week, die-hard protesters were reluctant to lose one of the few forms of leverage they have to press demands that go far beyond the cabinet's resignation.

"Giving up is out of the question," said Tarek Badoun, 38, one of a group of demonstrators blocking the main flyover in central Beirut.

The tug-of-war between demonstrators seeking to block roads and security forces under orders to reopen the country for business repeated itself on Thursday.

The mass mobilisation, which has seen hundreds of thousands protest nationwide, has so far been largely bloodless, despite sporadic scuffles with counter-demonstrators from the established political parties.

Some schools have reopened this week and banks were due to reopen on Friday, as the protests piled more economic pressure on a country that has been sliding towards default in recent months.

"The political class is banking on the protests running out of steam, that much is clear," said Karim Bitar, a professor of international relations in Paris and Beirut. "It hopes the Lebanese, choked by economic hardship, will resume their daily lives," he said.

President Michel Aoun has asked Hariri's government to stay on in a caretaker capacity until a new one can be formed, but Lebanon has entered a phase of acute political uncertainty, even by its own dysfunctional standards.

With a power-sharing system organised along communal and sectarian lines, the allocation of ministerial posts can typically take months, a delay Lebanon's donors say the debt-ridden country can ill afford.

French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said it was "essential for Lebanon's future that a new government be formed rapidly to carry out the reforms that the country needs".

The new government would need to "address the legitimate aspirations expressed by Lebanese and take the decisions indispensable to the country's economic recovery", he said.

France is a major donor to Lebanon and retains significant influence in its former colony.—AFP

Israel approves over 2,000 settler homes

JERUSALEM: Israel has approved the construction of 2,342 settler homes in the occupied West Bank, settlement watchdog Peace Now said on Thursday.

It said the decision was taken on Oct 30 and that 59 per cent of the new homes will be erected in "settlements that Israel likely may evacuate under a peace agreement" with the Palestinians.

According to Peace Now, which closely monitors Israeli settlement building, plans for 8,337 housing units in the settlements have been approved since the beginning of the year.

It said this represented an increase of close to 50 per cent compared with 2018 when plans for 5,618 housing units were approved.

"This brings the average number of housing units approved in the three years since President Trump was elected, to 6,899 housing units, almost twice the average in the three years preceding them," said the NGO.

All settlements are considered illegal under international law and are built on land that the Palestinians see as part of their future state, but Israel distinguishes between those it has approved and those it has not.

Peace Now said that settlement construction has increased under Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who is fighting for his political survival after failing to form a coalition government following September elections.—AFP

Bangladesh SC upholds death sentence of Jamaat leader

DHAKA: Bangladesh's highest court on Thursday upheld a death sentence against a top Islamist leader for war crimes in a move that lawyers said meant he would almost certainly be executed in the coming months.

A.T.M. Azharul Islam, a stalwart of the opposition Jamaat-i-Islami, was sentenced to death in 2014 for rape, murder and genocide during the 1971 operation by Pakistan Army.

He would become the sixth Islamist leader to be hanged for their role in the war.

The Supreme Court led by Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain rejected an appeal by the 67-year-old in a majority verdict, defence lawyer Khandker Mahbub Hossain told reporters.

"We will file a review petition against the verdict," he said, adding Islam was an 18-year-old student in 1971.

But it is rare in Bangladesh's judicial history for a verdict to be overturned on review. All previous death sentences arising out of the 1971 war cases have been upheld.

A prosecutor said that Islam could be hanged within months if the review backs the verdict. Islam was assistant secretary general of Jamaat, the nation's largest Islamist party, which sided with Pakistan during the conflict. He is the last of its prominent leaders to face war crimes accusations.

In recent years, the controversial International Crimes Tribunal, set up by the government in 2010, has sentenced dozens of people to death including five Jamaat leaders on war crimes charges.

A former minister of the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party was also sentenced to death by the tribunal and later hanged.

Prosecutors said that as regional head of a pro-Pakistani militia and student wing leader of Jamaat, Islam was involved in the murder of 1,200 people in the northern district of Rangpur during the war. Defence lawyers said the charges were fabricated.

Jamaat, which is banned from contesting elections, said the war crime trials were only aimed at eliminating Bangladesh's top Islamist leaders.

Jamaat's supreme leader was executed in 2016. The sentences against Islamist leaders sparked unrest in 2013-14 that left hundreds dead.

Rights groups have said the trials fell short of international standards.

The government maintains the trials were needed to heal the wounds of the 1971 war, which it claims left three million people dead. Independent researchers give a much lower toll.—AFP

NEWSMAKERS

SYDNEY: A bottle of sriracha hot chilli sauce, part of a seized consignment which was later found to conceal drugs is seen in the photo. Four men were arrested after Australian police seized 400kgs of crystal meth, or ice, worth an estimated A$300 million ($210 million) concealed in the bottles of the sauce. A search of an air cargo consignment that had arrived at a Sydney freight depot from the US on Oct 15 found 768 bottles of sriracha chilli sauce, "with presumptive testing returning a positive indicator for methylamphetamine (ice)", New South Wales state police said in a statement on Thursday.—Reuters

BUCHAREST: A little girl carries the pumpkin she carved for the "Halloween Pumpkin Fest", a pumpkin carving event, which took place over the weekend in a park in the Romanian capital with thousands trying their hand at carving more than 30,000 pumpkins.—AP

SYDNEY: A ferry passes near the Sydney Harbour Bridge, seen through a smoke haze, on Thursday.—Reuters

Hazardous smoke blankets Sydney

SYDNEY was wreathed in hazardous smoke on Thursday as strong winds fanned dozens of bushfires across Australia's east coast, prompting health warnings for the city that is home to more than five million people and the state of New South Wales (NSW). Firefighters were battling to control more than 40 wild fires that remained ablaze across NSW, the state's Rural Fire Service (RFS) said. There were no reports of injuries caused by the fires by mid-afternoon local time, though 45 homes were destroyed.

The strong winds have blown the dangerous smoke across large parts of NSW. The RFS said the smoke was unlikely to clear for at least 24 hours, while hot, dry conditions are expected to linger for several days more — exacerbating the threat of more fires as authorities try to access the damage of blazes now extinguished. "Dust may aggravate existing heart and lung conditions and cause symptoms like eye irritation and cough," said Richard Broome, director of environmental health, NSW Health. "Symptoms can occur for several days after dust is inhaled, so people with the chronic conditions need to be vigilant with their treatment programs."

One of the biggest fires in recent days was recorded in Lake Cathie, 379 kilometres north of Sydney — which has destroyed more than 2,000 hectares of a national park. The fire is now contained, though the area is a prime breeding ground for koalas, stoking fears that hundreds will have been killed by the fires. "Based on our calculations, with a minimum 60pc mortality rate about 350 koalas will be lost," said Sue Ashton, president of the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital. "It's terrible, it's absolutely devastating. It's a national tragedy." Ashton said seven rescuers on Thursday attempted to enter the worst affected areas but were advised to leave as strong winds stoked fears of the fires spreading.—Reuters

KIDAPAWAN (Philippines): Eva's Hotel stands damaged after a strong earthquake of 6.5-magnitude on Thursday. The third strong earthquake this month in the southern Philippines killed five people, injured several others and destroyed buildings that were already damaged by the earlier shaking in a devastated region, officials said.—AP

BANGKOK: A woman holds up what the Chris Steaks & Burgers restaurant says is Thailand's biggest burger weighing more than six kgs. The burger joint has become an internet sensation after YouTubers started challenging each other to eat its biggest meal. The restaurant is offering a 10,000 baht ($330) prize for anyone who can finish the mammoth snack in nine minutes — one baht for every calorie.—Reuters

Congress holds landmark vote on Trump's impeachment

WASHINGTON: Congress formally opened a new, public phase of its corruption investigation into Donald Trump on Thursday as US lawmakers voted for the first time to advance the impeachment process targeting the US president.

"Today the House takes the next step forward as we establish the procedures for open hearings ... so that the public can see the facts for themselves," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said. "What is at stake in all of this is nothing less than our democracy."

The top Democrat and Trump's chief nemesis in Congress addressed fellow lawmakers shortly before her chamber took a Halloween morning vote along party lines — 232 to 196 — to pass a resolution that lays out rules for the next stages of the impeachment process.

Trump has repeatedly branded the inquiry as illegitimate and politically motivated and he was true to form in his instant reaction to the vote in the bitterly divided House. "The Greatest Witch Hunt In American History!" he boomed on Twitter.

White House press secretary Stephanie Grisham issued a longer statement, accusing opposition Democrats of being "fundamentally un-American" in their "unhinged obsession with this illegitimate impeachment". "Democrats are choosing every day to waste time on a sham impeachment — a blatantly partisan attempt to destroy the President," she said.

Trump meanwhile called on Republicans to rally behind him even as he faced the embarrassing likelihood of becoming the third president in history to be impeached and placed on trial for removal in the Senate, over an alleged scheme to extort Ukraine's help to get him reelected in 2020.

The embattled president retweeted a rallying cry from Fox News host Laura Ingraham that called on Republicans to "stand together and defend the leader of their party against these smears."

The landmark resolution did not have unanimous Democratic approval. Two Democrats joined all Republicans in opposing the measure, although former Republican Justin Amash, now an independent, supported it — and offered a searing warning to his former party.

"Excusing his misbehaviour will forever tarnish your name," he tweeted to Republicans. "History will not look kindly on disingenuous, frivolous, and false defences of this man."

The inquiry now moves into the public eye — giving Americans the chance to hear on live television the evidence against Trump.

The House Intelligence Committee, which has led the inquiry so far, will host open hearings, presenting witnesses and documentary evidence and allowing Republicans to challenge the case against Trump.

If the case against Trump is deemed strong enough, the House Judiciary Committee will draw up formal charges against the president — articles of impeachment — to be voted on by the full House.

That process could be completed by year end. The Democrat-controlled House is expected to approve impeachment, which would then see Trump go on trial in the Senate, where Republicans have a majority.—AFP

Iraqi president hints at early polls

BAGHDAD: Iraq's president vowed on Thursday to hold early elections in response to a month of deadly protests, but demonstrators said the move fell far short of their demands for a political overhaul.

In his first televised address in weeks, President Barham Saleh said the country's embattled Prime Minister Adel Abdel Mahdi was ready to step down, but there was so far no one to take his place.

"The prime minister expressed his willingness to submit his resignation, asking the political parties to reach an agreement on an acceptable alternative," said Saleh.

He pledged to hold early elections as soon as a new voting law and oversight commission was agreed, but his speech did not appear to impress demonstrators.

"Barham's speech is just an opiate for the masses," said Haydar Kazem, 49.

"Abdel Mahdi's resignation isn't a solution, it's part of the solution. The problem is with the ruling parties, not with Abdel Mahdi."

Iraq's leaders have scrambled to respond to massive protests that erupted on Oct 1 over unemployment and corruption, ballooning into demands for "the downfall of the regime".

Saleh has held closed-door talks with top figures over Abdel Mahdi's ouster and parliament has called on the PM to come in for questioning.

The United Nations' top representative in Iraq, Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, called for a national dialogue to draw a roadmap out of the crisis.

"Today Iraq stands at a crossroads. Progress through dialogue, or divisive inaction," she said. "Full access to all information, facts and figures will prove key. Window dressing will only feed anger and resentment."

One in five Iraqis live below the poverty line and youth unemployment stands at 25 per cent, despite the vast oil wealth of OPEC's second-largest crude producer.

That inequality has been a rallying cry for the protests.

Crowds occupied the emblematic Tahrir (Liberation) Square in the capital for the eighth consecutive day.—AFP

IS confirms Baghdadi's death, vows revenge

BEIRUT: The Islamic State militant group confirmed the death of its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in a statement on Thursday and named his replacement as Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Qurashi.

"We mourn you ... commander of the faithful," said Abu Hamza al-Qurashi — presented as the group's new spokesman — in an audio statement.

Baghdadi, who led IS since 2014 and was the world's most wanted man, was killed in a US special forces raid in Syria's province of Idlib on Sunday.

The group also confirmed the killing in another raid the following day of the group's previous spokesman Abu Hassan al-Muhajir.

The IS spokesman also issued a stark warning to the United States, whose President Donald Trump announced Baghdadi's death in a televised address from the White House.

"He died after running into a dead-end tunnel, whimpering and crying and screaming all the way," Trump said on Sunday, adding that Baghdadi "died like a dog".

In the new audio message, the new IS spokesman described Trump as "a crazy old man" and warned the US that the group's supporters would avenge Baghdadi's death.

"Do not rejoice America," he warned, "the new chosen one will make you forget the horror you have beholden ... and make the achievements of the Baghdadi days taste sweet."

The spokesman also referred to an earlier call by Baghdadi for the thousands of IS fighters held in Syrian and Iraqi prisons to be freed.

Syrian Kurdish forces run prisons in northeastern Syria where they say around 12,000 IS suspects are held.

Most of those prisoners are Iraqi and Syrian but the detainees also include more than 2,000 foreigners who hail from more than 50 different countries.

Symbolic impact

With aerial and logistical assistance from an international coalition led by the US, Iraqi and Syrian forces have wrested back all the territory lost to IS in 2014.

Fighters from the newly-formed IS group that year swept through much of the Sunni heartland in Iraq and Syria to declare a "caliphate" that further expanded to reach roughly the size of Great Britain.

Years of battles led to the elimination in 2019 of IS' self-declared territorial "caliphate", ending an unprecedented experiment in jihadist statehood which saw a well-organised administration mint its own currency, produce school textbooks and levy taxes.

But while that entity collapsed in March in the remote eastern Syrian village of Baghouz, the organisation went underground and reverted to well-honed guerrilla tactics that continue to do damage.

A recent Turkish invasion targeting the Kurdish forces that had fought against IS in Baghouz has wrought havoc in northeastern Syria, whose geopolitical map is being redrawn.

IS has a very horizontal structure, analysts say, and the impact of a decapitation strike may be more symbolic than operational, leaving the group's global jihadist brand and efficiency as an insurgency largely intact.—AFP

ABU Bakr al-Baghdadi.—AP

Johnson pledges January Brexit in election pitch

LONDON: Prime Minister Boris Johnson blamed his opposition Labour rival for Britain's failure to leave the European Union by Thursday's deadline and promised to deliver Brexit by January — if he wins the upcoming pre-Christmas election.

Johnson is riding high in opinion polls going into the Dec 12 vote that will be Britain's third in four years.

But he risks a backlash over his unkept "do or die" promise to take Britain out by Oct 31 — and again set himself up for another potential fall by promising to meet the next deadline.

The Conservative leader, who wants no more delays to the process, cast himself as a victim of parliamentary opposition parties that refused to follow the wishes of UK voters who chose to leave Europe in the knife-edge 2016 referendum.

"After three-and-a-half years, it was perfectly obvious to me that this parliament is just not going to vote Brexit through," Johnson said during a campaign stop at a hospital.

"If you vote for us and we get our programme through, which we will — as a I say, it's oven-ready, it's there to go — we can be out, at the absolute latest, by January next year."

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn said he would throw out Johnson's plan and get Brexit "sorted" within the first six months of grabbing power by negotiating more EU-friendly separation terms.

He would then put it up for a vote against the option of simply staying the 27-nation bloc.

"We'll let the people decide whether to leave with a sensible deal or remain. It really isn't that complicated," Corbyn told a party rally at a London art centre.

"And we, the Labour government, will carry out whatever the people decide." But the veteran socialist avoided answering a direct question on which way he himself would vote.

"It's not about me, it's not any individual on this platform, it's not a presidential election," Corbyn said.

Corbyn has been accused of seeking to shift the debate onto more domestic subjects such as health and social care to avoid scrutiny of his own vague position on Europe.

He has said in the past that he voted to leave in 2016. But he has also spent much of his political career attacking Brussels as a cauldron of crony capitalism.

Corbyn promised to push the most "radical" agenda Britain has ever seen. He pledged to put "wealth and power in the hands of the many" and eliminate everything from poverty to university tuition fees.

"Together we can pull down the corrupt system to build a genuine government that cares for all," he said.

Business leaders warn that Labour's plan to reimpose state ownership over railways and other major industries would cost at least $253 billion.

But a National Institute of Economic and Social Research study suggested on Wednesday that Johnson's Brexit deal could leave Britain 70 billion worse off in 10 years.—AFP

BORIS Johnson.—AFP

Outrage in eSwatini over royal family's cars

MBABANE: Civil servants in eSwatini took to the streets again on Thursday demanding better pay after the delivery of luxury cars to the royal family caused fresh uproar in the tiny African kingdom.

Formerly known as Swaziland, Africa's last absolute monarchy was rocked by a series a strikes late last month by teachers and workers over the cost of living.

Around 700 civil servants rallied in the capital Mbabane on Thursday against the rule of King Mswati III, who they accuse of draining public coffers at the expense of his subjects.

An official source confirmed that luxury cars had been delivered to the royal family, but said the vehicles had not been purchased with public funds.

The source said the cars were bought with money raised by the sale of royal property, including other vehicles.

The Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) expressed its "utmost shock and disappointment".

"The purchase happened at a time when the country is reported to be in dire financial constraints," TUCOSWA said in a statement.

"Rolls-Royce cars are a luxury ... we need basic commodities," the union said, adding that the government had refused to raise the salaries of public workers for three years claiming it was not affordable.

Protests are rare in eSwatini, where opposition parties and anti-government movements are effectively banned, but public anger has been rising in recent months.—AFP

Fire destroys Japan's World Heritage castle

TOKYO: A fire tore through World Heritage-listed Shuri Castle in Japan's southern island of Okinawa on Thursday, reducing the main hall of the more than 500-year old landmark to a charred skeleton.

The wooden castle, once a palace and cultural heart of the Ryukyu Kingdom which flourished from the 15th to 19th century, burned for around 12 hours until firefighters brought it under control in the afternoon.

The castle has been damaged by fire and rebuilt several times. It was last destroyed during World War 2, and its restoration was a symbol of recovery for Okinawa, which suffered heavy casualties as a site of heavy fighting between US and Japanese forces.

Television showed local residents and tourists, some praying and in tears, watching as smoke billowed from the remains of the once bright-red castle.

The city's fire department said that while the castle had exterior sprinkler systems, its halls were not so equipped as this was not required under local fire codes.

After World War 2, it served as a university campus until the mid 1970s. Following post-war reconstruction, it re-opened as a national park in 1992 and was designated a World Heritage site in 2000.—Reuters

A BANNER hangs at the library's entrance.—AP

Goats help save California's Reagan library from wildfire

SIMI VALLEY: A herd of 500 goats helped save California's Ronald Reagan library from a wildfire on Wednesday, after the voracious animals earlier this year ate flammable scrub surrounding the hilltop complex.

The hired goats munched through brush to create a fire break that slowed the blaze and let firefighters douse flames on Wednesday before they reached exhibits like an Air Force One jet and a piece of the Berlin Wall, a library spokeswoman said.

"We were told by one of the fire fighters that they believe that fire break made their job easier," said Melissa Giller. "The brush only went so far, it didn't reach the library, because the goats ate it all."

The complex near Simi Valley is the second big southern California institution in as many days to be protected from a rash of wildfires by fire-prevention work.

Los Angeles' J. Paul Getty Museum on Tuesday said its scrub clearance efforts slowed a blaze on its perimeter.

Driven by gale-force winds, the so-called Easy Fire surrounded the Reagan library on Wednesday morning, coming less than 50 feet from a hangar housing the Boeing 707 aircraft used by the former Republican president.

The site houses papers and memorabilia from Reagan's 1981-1989 administrations, and the Cold War leader is buried there alongside his wife Nancy.—Reuters

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ADDENDUM NO. 1

AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF BELOW MENTIONED SERVICE AREAS AT NORTH & SOUTH BOUND ON SUKKUR-MULTAN MOTORWAY (M-5) ON ADVANCE NET GUARANTEED RENTAL BASIS

I.	ROHRI	KM 397 + 847 (NORTH & SOUTH BOUND)
II.	QUTTUB DIN SHAH	KM 460 + 425 (NORTH & SOUTH BOUND)
III.	AZAMPUR	KM 528 + 025 (NORTH & SOUTH BOUND)
IV.	ZAHIRPIR	KM 600 + 910 (NORTH & SOUTH BOUND)
V.	UCH SHARIF	KM 679 + 700 (NORTH & SOUTH BOUND)
VI.	MULTAN	KM 760 + 200 (NORTH & SOUTH BOUND)

Reference: Invitation to Bid Notice published in Daily National Newspapers dated 18th October, 2019 and also uploaded on NHA & PPRA websites.

1. With Reference to above, all the Prospective Bidders are hereby informed that the Bid Submission Date has been extended upto Tuesday, 12th November, 2019.
2. All other terms & conditions originally published in the advertisement dated 18th October, 2019 and in the Bidding Documents uploaded on NHA's website shall remain unchanged.

GENERAL MANAGER (ROW-REV)
28-Mauve Area, G-9/1, Islamabad, Tel: 051-9032729, Fax: 051-9032948
Websites: www.nha.gov.pk, www.ppra.org.pk

PID(I)2358/19

"ROADS FOR SUMMER, DAMS AND MOHMAND DAMS"

Government of Pakistan
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY & RESEARCH

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Applications are invited from suitable candidates for appointment to various posts based at Islamabad under the two projects titled **"National Program for Improvement of Watercourses in Pakistan, Phase-II"** and **"Water Conservation in Barani Areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa"** purely on contract basis in the Ministry of National Food Security and Research (M/o NFS&R), initially for a period of two years extendable further on yearly basis till the completion of the project. The position will be filled strictly on merit basis in a transparent manner and in accordance with the guidelines provided in Ministry of Finance OM No.F.4(9)R-14/2008 dated 19th July, 2017.

Detailed Terms of Reference (TORs) and terms and conditions for all positions can be downloaded from the website **www.mnfsr.gov.pk**. Interested individuals may send their application on prescribed forms along with CVs and all the educational/experience certificates including CNIC and recent photograph within fifteen (15) days of publication of this advertisement at the below mentioned address clearly mentioning on the envelope the name of the project and the position applied for.

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DAWN

An Indian soldier stands guard as the Indian flag flies atop the government secretariat in Srinagar on Thursday.—AP

No flag, constitution for held Kashmir under its new status

Mehbooba Mufti urges the Indian government to engage with Kashmiris 'before it's too late'

SRINAGAR: India on Thursday formally implemented the decision it announced in early August which removes occupied Kashmir's semi-autonomous status and begins direct federal rule of the disputed area amid a harsh security lockdown and widespread public disenchantment.

Its legislation divides the former state of Jammu and Kashmir into two federally governed territories. Government forces were on Thursday on high alert to prevent anti-India protests or armed attacks, though no incidents were reported until noon.

Tens of thousands of police and paramilitary soldiers fanned out across the disputed region, patrolling streets and manning checkpoints. Shops, schools and businesses have mostly remained closed since August and streets were largely deserted.

G.C. Murmu, a new civilian administrator appointed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government with the title of lieutenant governor, assumed office on Thursday. The region previously was headed by a governor.

Indian authorities also changed the name of the state-run radio station Radio Kashmir Srinagar to All India Radio Srinagar. The radio started broadcasting even before India gained independence in 1947.

The most visible change is the absence of Kashmir's own flag and constitution, which were eliminated as part of the disputed region's new status. But the most contentious point for many people is the threat of land grabs by Indians outside the region with the formal abrogation of a clause in the Indian Constitution that safeguarded Kashmiris' exclusive right to land ownership.

"Everything changes on Thursday. From a state, we are reduced to a municipality," said a retired Kashmiri judge, Hasnain Masoodi, a member of India's parliament.

"The entire exercise is unconstitutional. The mode and methodology have been undemocratic. People were humiliated and never consulted."

Masoodi represents the National Conference, a powerful pro-India Kashmiri political group whose leaders have been detained.

'Left in the lurch'

Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, one of scores of politicians in detention to prevent large protests from breaking out, said the Indian government must engage with Kashmiris before they become even more alienated.

"GOI (government of India) has left Kashmiris in the lurch & shown disregard for their rights. But if you consider them as your own, reach out & engage with them before it's too late," she said in a Twitter post which is being handled by her daughter Iltija.

Despite a siege by tens of thousands of Indian security personnel, hundreds of anti-India protests and clashes have erupted across the Himalayan region. Government forces have fired tear gas, shotgun and firearms to prevent stone-throwing protesters from marching in the streets, leaving at least three people dead and hundreds injured.

At least 4,000 people, mostly young men, had been arrested since the security lockdown was imposed in the first week of August. Indian officials say at least 3,000 have since been released.

About 250 of those still being held have been moved to various Indian jails outside Kashmir.

Records show that about 300 of those are being held under the Public Safety Act, which allows authorities to detain people for up to two years without trial.

Rayees Ahmad, a businessman, wondered how long India would be able to control Kashmir. "Time will prove that this situation will not remain," he said.

"The world is watching."

Kashmiri people's hopes rest with India's Supreme Court, which is set to begin hearings in early November on petitions challenging the validity of the abrogation of Article 370 of the constitution, which gave a special status to Kashmir. A decision is expected within several months.—Agencies

'Azadi march' betrays lack of coordination among parties

PML-N's announcement about 'postponement' of rally till Friday adds to confusion; PPP says 'extremely' difficult for Bilawal to address gathering

By Amir Wasim

ISLAMABAD: Opposition parties' Azadi march spearheaded by the Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl finally entered Islamabad on Thursday, but not before exposing lack of coordination among them.

The decision of JUI-F to keep its actual plan secret till the last moment not only kept the government and local administration of the capital perplexed, but also came under criticism from key political allies.

The main opposition Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) added to the confusion by unilaterally announcing "postponement" of the public meeting at the planned venue in Islamabad till Friday due to the train tragedy.

The announcement made by PML-N secretary general Ahsan Iqbal at a time when marchers were about to begin their journey from Gujar Khan was criticised by JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman, who immediately issued a statement, saying that they would reach the Azadi March venue on Thursday night at all cost to address the public meeting.

Interestingly, later the JUI-F officially announced that the public meeting would now be held on Friday after Friday prayers.

A spokesman for the JUI-F claimed that the decision to hold the public meeting had been made after "consultation" with the opposition's Rehbar Committee.

He said the march was going ahead as planned and cautioned the people against falling victim to rumour mills.

On the other hand, Awami National Party (ANP) president Asfandyar Wali Khan, who arrived in Islamabad from Charsadda leading a party's rally on Thursday, complained about the lack of coordination and even questioned where had the Rehbar Committee gone.

Pointing towards senior party leader and a member of the Rehbar Committee, Mian Iftikhar Hussain, the ANP chief said that his nominee in the committee was sitting beside him and he had not been contacted by the committee's convener Akram Durrani or other members.

Mr Khan said he had reached Islamabad as per plan as they had been told that the public meeting would be held on Oct 31.

Similarly, a spokesman for Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Senator Mustafa Nawaz Khokhar said there was total confusion as they did not know about the actual plan of JUI-F leaders.

Mr Khokhar said the PPP chairman had cancelled all his activities for the day as he was scheduled to address the public meeting after the arrival of the participants of the Azadi march.

Talking to Dawn, he said that the PPP chairman was scheduled to address a public meeting at Rahim Yar Khan on Friday and now it had become extremely difficult for him to address the Azadi march since the JUI-F had now announced that it would be held after Friday prayers.

He said the announcement was "ambiguous" as no exact time had been announced. However, he said, the PPP chairman would make every effort to address the Azadi march participants before his departure to south Punjab, where he would be staying till Nov 9.

Earlier, the PML-N's this participation in the JUI-F Azadi march in Lahore on Wednesday night was noticed by everyone. Even the PPP worker's outnumbered the PML-N's in the JUI-F's show and its (PPP) Punjab president Qamar Zaman Kaira shared the stage with Maulana Fazlur Rehman.

Many JUI-F supporters at Minar-i-Pakistan complained that the PML-N workers did not join the march despite tall claims of their leaders.

PML-N president Shahbaz Sharif was present in Lahore but his meeting with Maulana Fazl could not be arranged.

Maulana Fazl also couldn't meet former prime minister Nawaz Sharif at the Services Hospital after doctors told him that Mr Sharif could not see visitors.

Earlier, the PML-N had claimed that the party would "fully" participate in the march on the direction of Nawaz Sharif. The consensus emerged after initial dilly-dallying amid reports that Mr Shahbaz was not in favour of joining the march.

At its last meeting a few days ago in Model Town regarding preparations for the march, the PML-N said it had mobilised its workers who would join the JUI-F march and give Maulana Fazl a rousing welcome here.

The PML-N, however, has already announced that Mr Shahbaz Sharif would address the public meeting in Islamabad.

Political experts and some opposition leaders believe that JUI-F leadership's decision to have a stopover at Gujar Khan, which is merely 50 kilometres away from the capital, was not a good move. They believe that the decision had badly affected the momentum of the rally which started from Karachi on October 27.

However, sources in the JUI-F claimed that the opposition parties had already been informed about the actual plan since the party had reached an understanding with the lawyers community that they would enter Islamabad only in the evening after the polling time for elections of the Supreme Court Bar Association was over.

Court sets aside DC order, frees Kifyatullah

Dawn Report

MANSEHRA / ABBOTTABAD: The Peshawar High Court, Abbottabad circuit bench, on Thursday set aside an order of the Mansehra deputy commissioner and ordered the release of Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) leader Mufti Kifayatullah, who was arrested under Section 3 of the Maintenance of Public Order (MPO) ordinance.

The two-member bench, comprising Justice Ijaz Anwar and Justice Shakeel Ahmed, after hearing the arguments declared the order of the deputy commissioner void and ordered Mufti Kifayatullah's release.

He was arrested on charges of collecting funds for the JUI-F Azadi march and disrupting law and order.

Meanwhile, Maulana Habibur Rehman, brother of Mufti Kifayatullah, said that a convoy of his party was on the way to the Haripur prison to receive Mufti Kifayatullah and later he would move to Islamabad to take part in the march.

Talking to reporters after the court order, he said: "We welcome the verdict which set aside the MPO order issued by Mansehra deputy commissioner and released Mufti Kifayatullah."

The Mansehra and Islamabad police in a joint operation had arrested Mufti Kifayatullah on Oct 26 and shifted him to Haripur prison.

A panel of lawyers, including Ghulam Murtaza Khan, Usman Salim Anwar and Saeedur Rehman, appeared on behalf of petitioner Mufti Kifayatullah before the court.

More removal requests sent to Twitter this year than ever: report

By Ramsha Jahangir

KARACHI: Over 200 requests for content removal were sent by Pakistani authorities to Twitter in the first half of this year, the highest so far, according to a biannual report of the social networking website.

The website's transparency report released on Thursday said that between January and July of 2019, the government sent 273 requests for removal of content and reported 1,798 profiles to Twitter. While the number of profiles reported dropped from 2,300, requests for account information increased.

Although Twitter did not completely remove any account, it removed some content from 238 accounts for violating Twitter's Terms of Reference as compared to 204 in July-Dec 2018.

Interestingly, after the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf took over the government, removal requests from the government have witnessed a spike. In the second half of 2018, 192 requests were sent by the government and law enforcement agencies and one request was sent through a court order.

This year, eight requests for removal were sent through a court order. Official requests include legal requests from government agencies, police departments, or other authorised requesters.

In terms of information requests, Pakistan made requests for 23 accounts and specified 70 in the first half of 2019 as compared to 17 information requests and 23 accounts specified last year.

Twitter, however, declined all the requests for account information and removal.

This year, the government also filed five "emergency disclosure" requests and sought information about five accounts. When such requests are filed, Twitter may disclose some information to law enforcement agencies if they meet the criteria.

In the second half of 2018, the government had filed only two emergency disclosure requests.

Pakistan also filed eight requests to preserve accounts, as opposed to two last year.

Explaining what constitutes a preservation request, Twitter said: "Government entities issue these requests so that information pertaining to an investigation stored by service providers like Twitter is temporarily saved while they go through the necessary steps to get the valid legal process required to lawfully obtain that information. Upon receipt of a valid preservation request, we will temporarily preserve, but not disclose, a snapshot of the relevant account information for 90 days, pending issuance and service of valid legal process."

Globally, Twitter received approximately 67 per cent more legal demands, impacting approximately 86pc more accounts, compared to the previous reporting period. This is the highest number of global legal demands to remove content that the platform received since the transparency report was launched in 2012.

During the reporting period, 122 accounts of verified journalists and news outlets from around the world were the subject of legal demands. Twitter however claimed it had acted on 11 tweets — eight of which were withheld in India under its Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000.

Overall, the report reveals that Twitter continues to comply more with Indian and Turkish legal demands than the rest of the world; the percentage of accounts withheld from the accounts specified by these two countries is close to 3pc compared to 0.6pc compliance for the rest of the world.

Twitter withheld 354 accounts worldwide during the reporting period, 95pc of which were collectively withheld in Turkey (264) and India (71).

The report also said that Twitter saw an increase across the board in the amount of private information, sensitive media, hateful content, and abuse, but that it was continuing to take action.

Twitter said it removed 124,339 accounts for impersonation and 115,861 accounts for promoting terrorism, a decline of 20pc as compared to the previous reporting period.

The company also removed 244,188 accounts for violations relating to child sexual exploitation.

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SPORT

Djokovic survives scare, Nadal advances

PARIS: World number one Novak Djokovic recovered from a stuttering start to kick off his Paris Masters campaign with a 7-6(2), 6-4 second-round victory over French youngster Corentin Moutet on Wednesday.

The Serbian, looking to end the year at the top of the ATP rankings for a record-equalling sixth time, saved two set points before hammering his way past the 20-year-old Moutet.

World number two Rafael Nadal, who will leapfrog Djokovic in the rankings if he wins in Paris, eased past France's Adrian Mannarino 7-5, 6-4.

The Spaniard was always in control, breaking in the last game of each set to tee up a meeting with Swiss Stan Wawrinka.

Djokovic fell 5-3 behind in the opening set before rallying back to 5-5 after staving off two set points, forcing a tie-break that he won easily.

The 16-time grand slam champion stormed through the second set to set up a meeting with Britton Kyle Edmund.

Djokovic, who said he did not feel 100 per cent healthy, is focusing on his own game rather than his battle with Nadal for the rankings top spot.

"I cannot affect what Rafa does, and I can only affect my own game, my own matches," he told a news conference. "I understand that I need to play better to have a chance to go far in this tournament and, as a result, to have a chance to still be in the battle for number one. It depends on him but my focus is on me."

Earlier, Fabio Fognini's hopes of qualifying for the season-ending ATP Finals ended with a 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 defeat by Canada's Denis Shapovalov.

Fognini, the 13th seed, needed to win the title at the Bercy arena to secure a spot in the Nov 10-17 tournament featuring the top eight players of the season.

The exuberant 32-year-old made a fine start before losing focus on Court One, sending a backhand long on the unseeded Shapovalov's first match point.

Belgian David Goffin, seeded 12th, was also eliminated from the race to London when he was beaten 7-5, 6-3 by Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov.

He also needed to win the title to qualify.

Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut was also denied a ticket to London with a 7-6(2), 7-6(1) loss to Alex De Minaur while Frenchman Gael Monfils kept his hopes alive by beating French compatriot Benoit Paire 6-4, 7-6(4).

Italian Matteo Berrettini's chances were dented when he was beaten 6-4, 6-3 by Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, a result that officially secured German Alexander Zverev's spot at the season-ending showdown.

Austrian fifth seed Dominic Thiem, who has already qualified for the London event at the O2, downed Canadian Milos Raonic 7-6(5), 5-7, 6-4.—Reuters

PARIS: France's Gael Monfils hits a return to compatriot Benoit Paire during their Paris Masters match at the AccorHotels Arena.—AFP

Sarfraz saves Sindh, remaining ties also drawn

KARACHI: Sindh needed the vast experience of deposed Pakistan captain Sarfraz Ahmed to avert a certain defeat against leaders Central Punjab during their First XI Quaid-e-Azam Trophy fifth-round fixture at the Iqbal Stadium in Faisalabad on Thursday.

The remaining two matches also failed to yield a conclusive result as batsmen were in dominant mood at both Sialkot and Quetta. But the clash in Faisalabad was by far the most exciting with Central Punjab just two wickets shy of sealing their third win of the championship.

After adding 85 runs briskly in 13.5 overs — with former Pakistan skipper Salman Butt, who was on 90 at stumps on Wednesday, contributing an unbeaten 137 (206 balls, 10 boundaries) — Central Punjab closed their second innings at 273-5 while setting Sindh a challenging target of 331 from the remaining 74 overs available in the day.

Just like their first innings, Sindh lost early wickets and were soon staring at defeat when the fifth wicket fell at 68. But Sarfraz played a captain's innings to bail his team out of danger with a defiant half-century that guided his side to 158-8 in 58 overs before match was called off owing to fading light.

Sarfraz, the wicket-keeper/batsman, scored 54 from 62 balls with the aid of seven boundaries and together with Saad Ali (23) added 53 for the sixth wicket. But just like in the first innings, Sarfraz's dismissal was a replica as he was caught by wicket-keeper Kamran Akmal off Nasim Shah.

Nasim further stake his claims for a fairytale Test debut against Australia by taking three wickets for 33 runs in 11 overs, giving the talented 16-year-old fast bowler match bag of nine for 111.

The action at Sialkot's Jinnah Stadium was laborious. Resuming their first innings at 403-8 in response to Northern's 550-6 declared, Southern Punjab were finally bowled out for 453 with long discarded Test wicket-keeper Adnan Akmal scoring 64 off 100 balls (10 fours).

While Australia-bound Pakistan paceman Shaheen Shah Afridi and spinner Nauman Ali didn't add to their overnight of two and five wickets, respectively, seamer Waqas Ahmed claimed the last wicket to finish with 3-59.

Northern then chose to gain batting practice and none benefitted more than their openers Haider Ali and Zeeshan Malik with both surpassing the 50-run mark. The pair shared an opening partnership of 131 before Zeeshan — who starred with a superb 256 in the first innings, which was also his maiden first-class score of 100-plus — was out for 59 (81 balls, seven fours).

After first-innings' centurion Umar Amin was dismissed for just four, Haider also went for 79 from 133 balls while striking 10 fours and one six, giving slow left-armer Mohammad Jr his third wicket on the trot.

By the time the game concluded, Northern had reached 212-4.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa drew with Balochistan at the Bugti Stadium without much problem. After being set a tough chase of 306, the visitors were greatly assisted by a second-wicket stand of 91 between Israrullah, who struck run-a-ball 85 (13 fours and one six) and Ashfaq Ahmed (51 off 64 balls, seven boundaries) as they collected 220-5.

Earlier, Balochistan closed their second innings at 158-8 with Khyber Pakhtunkhwa off-spinner Sajid Khan taking the spotlight for his bag of 5-36 from 12 overs.

The next round of matches begins from Monday with Central Punjab playing Northern in Faisalabad, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa hosting Sindh in Abbottabad and Southern Punjab travelling to Quetta to take on Balochistan.

Scores and results on Thursday (final day of four):

PFDA cricket

At Bugti Stadium, Quetta: Match drawn.

BALOCHISTAN 315-8 declared in 90 overs (Zeeshan Malik 75, Imran Farhat 104, Sharafuddin Khan 75, Aamir Zaib 49, Umar Shah Noor 4-66, Sajid Khan 3-126, Imran Khan 2-83) and 158-8 declared in 41 overs (Imran Farhat 39, Aamir Zaib 73, Imran Farhat 25 not out, Sajid Khan 3-36); KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA 458 in 103.3 overs (Adil Amin 109, Sahibzada Farhan 86, Israrullah 71, Khalil Usman 56, Zohaib Khan 51, Mohammad Asghar 4-101, Yasir Shah 4-131, Taj Wali 2-69) and 220-5 in 46 overs (Israrullah 85 not out, Ashfaq Ahmed 51, Zohaib Khan 3 not out, Sahibzada Farhan 23, Yasir Shah 2-62).

At Iqbal Stadium, Faisalabad: Match drawn.

CENTRAL PUNJAB 403 in 93.3 overs (Kamran Akmal 59, Ahmed Shehzad 90, Faheem Ashraf 42 not out, Usman Salahuddin 34, Shoaib Ashfaq 29, Kashif Bhatti 3-99, Nik Shaiezan 3-80, Nabeel Khan 3-113, Tabish Khan 2-88) and 273-5 declared in 60.3 overs (Salman Butt 137 not out, Ashar Ali 90, Umar Akmal 24, Tabish Khan 3-102); SINDH 250 in 58.4 overs (Fawad Alam 92, Saad Ali 53, Usman Bin Liaquat 31, Fahad Iftikhar 29, Nasim Shah 6-78, Hasan Adil 3-39) and 158-8 in 58 overs (Sarfraz Ahmed 54, Khurram Manzoor 28, Saad Ali 23, Nasim Shah 4-33, Zafar Gohar 3-41).

At Jinnah Stadium, Sialkot: Match drawn.

NORTHERN 550-6 declared in 128.2 overs (Zeeshan Malik 256, Umar Amin 104, Farhan Iqbal 83, Ali Sarfraz 49 not out, Haider Ali 79) and 212-4 declared in 59 overs (Haider Ali 79, Zeeshan Malik 59, Rameez Aziz 30 not out, Faisal Riaz 2-64); SOUTHERN PUNJAB 453 in 111.4 overs (Sohaib Maqsood 131, Rumi Aslam 100, Adnan Akmal 64, Wahab Mehmood 3-91, Mohammad Asghar 3-96, Imran Baloch 2-103, Umair Siddiqui 2-72, Hammad Ali 2-104, Waqas Ahmed 2-95, Shaheen Shah Afridi 1-109). — Sports Reporter

PCB signs deal to develop girls cricket

By Our Sports Reporter

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Thursday inked a deal with Uber for the development of girls cricket at school level across the country through its Cricket Programme.

"The six-month partnership, which commences from the day of [the] signing, will benefit more than 1,500 players through collaboration with schools in 14 cities namely Abbottabad, Bahawalpur, Chitwadda, Hariput, Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Mardan, Multan, Muzaffargarh, Nowshera, Peshawar, Quetta and Rawalpindi," a PCB press release said.

"Under the six-month partnership, playing and training clothing will be provided to 850 children, while cricket equipment will be provided to 50 schools," the release added.

"The programme will select a minimum of four schools in every city. With women coaches and mentors given priority, 50 school-based sports staff will be provided training. Twenty-five pitches will be developed in schools across five zones."

PCB chief executive Wasim Khan said: "For the promotion of women and girls cricket and the enhancement of the player pool, it is imperative that women cricket is developed at school level.

"The PCB has been undertaking many initiatives through its Cricket Programme and plans to exhaust all avenues to provide better opportunities for girls to take up the sport and to see it as a viable profession at a later stage."

Asif storms into World Snooker knockouts

KARACHI: Former world champion Mohammad Asif continued his winning spree and ensured a place into the knockout round from group C following 4-1 victory over Ross Symes (Jersey) in the IBSF World Snooker Championships in Turkish city of Antalya on Thursday.

According to information made available here, with two wins already under his belt, Asif was home (22-74, 70-10, 71-25, 68-33, 55-12).

Meanwhile, Asif's compatriot Babar Masih chalked up 4-1 victory over Czech Republic's Osip Zamyanovic (84-1, 46-58, 71-30, 96-13, 80-4) to keep his chances alive for the knockout round.

Former Pakistan No 2 Zulfiqar Qadir's century break went in vain as he suffered 3-4 loss at the hands of Russia's Ivan Kakovskii in group A opener.

Zulfiqar hammered 101 break against his opponent in the sixth frame besides 63 in the first but lost the battle. The Russian cueist won the duel 59-74, 121-8, 19-73, 93-6, 58-49, 0-101, 63-56.

Results:

Mohammad Asif bt Ross Symes (Jersey) 4-1 (22-74, 70-10, 71-25, 68-33, 55-12).

Wednesday's remaining results:

Babar Masih (Pakistan) bt Osip Zamyanovic (Czech Republic) 4-1 (84-1, 46-58, 71-30, 96-13, 80-4); Ivan Kakovskii (Russia) bt Zulfiqar A. Qadir (Pakistan) 4-3 (59-74, 121-8, 19-73, 93-6, 58-49, 0-101, 63-56). — Sports Reporter

Korean taekwondo coach hired

By Kashif Abbasi

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's taekwondo players will be trained by Korean coach Han Sangsu for the 2019 South Asian Games and the 2020 Olympic qualification round, the Pakistan Taekwondo Federation (PTF) has said.

According to the PTF, the foreign coach, who is arriving in Pakistan on Nov 2, has been hired to train the country's athletes for the South Asian Games and the 2020 Olympic qualification round tournament.

In a statement, the PTF said the hiring of the coach was made possible due to the support from the Ministry of Inter-provincial Coordination (IPC), Pakistan Sports Board and efforts of PTF.

"The induction of this coach will be very beneficial and fruitful for our athletes at the upcoming South Asian Games and the 2020 Olympic qualification round tournament," the statement said.

The services of the Korean coach will also be utilised by all affiliated units, departments and associations on required basis, the statement added.

The statement further said PTF patron retired Lt Gen Jared Iqbal is also supporting promotion and development of taekwondo across the country for better results in international competitions.

A pool of Pakistani coaches will also remain under the supervision of Han to learn modern coaching techniques.

Speaking to *Dawn*, PTF president retired Lt Col Waseem Ahmed said initially the services of the said coach has been hired for six months, which he added could be extended if required.

Three changes made to women's team for BD one-dayers

By Our Sports Reporter

LAHORE: Led by captain Bismah Maroof, Pakistan women's team will face Bangladesh in the two-match One-day International series starting here at the Gaddafi Stadium on Saturday.

After completing a 3-0 whitewash in the T20 International series against Bangladesh at the same venue on Wednesday, Pakistan are in good form to do well the ODIs too.

Three changes were made to the Pakistan T20 squad for the one-dayers. After participating in the ACC Women's Emerging Teams Cup in Sri Lanka slow left-arm spinner Nashra Sandhu, leg-spinner Aroob Shah and medium-fast bowler Fatima Sana have replaced batter Ayesha Zafar, slow left-arm spinner Anam Amin, the most successful Pakistan bowler in the T20 series, and off-spinner Saba Nazir.

Anam grabbed five wickets at an average of 9.40 to be the most successful bowler. But chief selector Urooj Mumtaz opted for Sadia Iqbal, who took four wickets at 15.00 in the Bangladesh T20 series.

"After a successful maiden T20 series, Sadia Iqbal has got a call-up for the ODI team. The left-arm spinner took four wickets in three matches at an average of 15," the PCB states, ignoring Anam's performances.

"Keeping in view Pakistan's final-round ICC Women's Championship fixtures against England in December, the selection committee – which is led by Urooj Mumtaz and includes Asmavia Iqbal and Marina Iqbal – has joined down a squad which strikes the balance of youth and experience and serves the players a crucial opportunity to warm up for the exciting series," the PCB release added.

Squad:

Bismah Maroof (captain), Aliya Riaz, Aroob Shah, Diana Baig, Fatima Sana, Iram Javed, Javeria Khan, Kainat Imtiaz, Nashra Sandhu, Nahida Khan, Omaima Sohail, Sadia Iqbal, Saba Ijaz, Saba Anam, Syeda Tanzeem Zaidi (coach).

Officials:

Iqbal Imam (interim head coach), Umaid Hussain (trainer), Iqbal Ahmed Asim (fielding coach), Ashfaq Jalil (manager), Dr Iftikar Asghar Gill (physio), Zubair Ahmed (analyst).

Oman, Scotland grab last two T20 World Cup spots

DUBAI: Oman defeated Hong Kong by just 12 runs on Wednesday in a do-or-die T20 World Cup qualifier to reach the finals in Australia along with Scotland who thrashed the United Arab Emirates (UAE) by 90 runs.

Oman and Scotland join Namibia, the Netherlands, Papua New Guinea and Ireland, who had already booked their places in the 2020 showpiece but are still competing for the winners' trophy in UAE.

Chasing just 135 to win, Hong Kong collapsed to 98-5 with left-arm seamer Bilal Khan taking three of the wickets to fall on his way to match figures of 4-23.

Scott McKechnie, who top scored with 44 off 46 balls, helped steady the ship with a partnership of 52 for the sixth wicket with Haroon Arshad (20) but Hong Kong struggled to get the ball away in the tough, heavy conditions and finished on 122-9.

Oman had also found it hard going, slipping to 42-6 by the end of the ninth over.

However, they were indebted to opener Jatinder Singh, who carried his bat for 67 with seven boundaries and a six, as well as tail-enders Aamir Kaleem (17) and Naseem Khushi (26-off just nine balls) to take them to a defendable target.

"We've had early mornings, we've sweated a lot, and this is our reward," said Jatinder. "Bilal was lethal, he was unplayable, getting the yorkers right, bang on target. He was marvellous."

Earlier, George Munsey belted 65 as Scotland made 198 before UAE were all out for 108, with nine balls left.

Mark Watt and Safyaan Sharif took three wickets for the Scots.

Scotland had struggled in group play and finished only fourth in their seven-team group.

"Not gone our way on this trip but nice to get over the line in the must-win game," said opening batsman Munsey.

Hosts UAE, whose squad had been diminished by the suspension of four players after corruption investigations, only narrowly missed an automatic World Cup berth when they finished third in their group on net run-rate.

"We turned up when we were pushed into a corner," said captain Ahmed Raza.

Scotland won the toss, batted first and quickly went on the attack. Skipper Kyle Coetzer hit two fours in the second over. Munsey struck two reverse sweep sixes and a four in the third.

By the time Coetzer was out for 34 in the 12th over, Scotland were on 87.

The assault continued as the new batsman, Michael Leask smashed a six off the second ball he faced.

Munsey made 65, hitting five of Scotland's nine sixes.

"It's always nice to score runs for the boys as a collective batting unit I thought we were brilliant," Munsey said.

UAE lost their first wicket with the score on four in the first over.

Their best hope went in the eighth over when top scorer Rameez Shahzad went for a brisk 34 in the ninth over, caught by Munsey off Watt.

The T20 World Cup takes place in Australia from Oct 18 to Nov 15 next year.—AFP

Allama Iqbal Day basketball tomorrow

KARACHI: One-day Allama Iqbal Day Basketball Tournament being organised by Pakistan Sports Welfare Association (PSWA) in collaboration with Karachi Basketball Association (KBBA) will be played on Nov 2 at Abdul Nasir Courts in Arambagh.

According to KBBA chief Ghulam Muhammad Khan, Karachi U-18 team, St Patrick's, Reflections School and The City School Darakhshan Chapter are taking part in the event. Prominent Sports Physiotherapist of Malaysia, Syeda Tanveer Zaidi will be the chief guest at prize distribution ceremony at 6pm.—Agencies

Scandal-hit boxing trials new judging system

TOKYO: Olympic boxing officials said they were confident that a new judging system could improve transparency in the scandal-hit sport as it went on trial on Thursday ahead of next year's Tokyo Games.

The new, computerised system makes the judges' scoring visible in real time, in a bid to avoid the sort of controversy that plagued Rio Olympics in 2016 when dozens of officials and referees were suspended over alleged match-fixing.

Boxing, one of the sports contested at the original Olympics in ancient Greece, was later threatened with expulsion from the Games over mismanagement by governing body AIBA, which was stripped of the right to organise the competition at Tokyo 2020.

Under the new system, on trial at the venue for next year's boxing competition, the five judges push a button for each scoring punch, with their marks appearing on a screen that is monitored by a supervisor.

The live scoring may also be made visible to the crowd, with officials due to make a decision at a later date.

"Distrust of judges is extremely large," said Mutsuri Watanabe, who heads the task force organising boxing at the Olympics.

"We have been working hard for justice," added Watanabe, who heads the International Gymnastics Federation and is a member of the International Olympic Committee.

Watanabe said he was "confident" that the new system would boost transparency and produce scoring that is "fairer and easier to understand for spectators".

Hidenori Fujiwara, an official from the firm Fujitsu that led development of the system, said judging in boxing is subjective.

"It has been visually impossible to see how judges are counting scoring hits during a round. It was all in their heads," he said.

Currently some judges memorise counts, some count on their fingers and some take notes to decide which boxer wins at each round, he said.

The system was put on display at the Ryogoku Kokugikan sumo stadium, where the Tokyo 2020 boxing competition will be held.

But while officials are keen to use it at the Games, the test mode clear some tweaks will be necessary.

Veteran judge Norio Teraka, who tried the system on Thursday, said he pushed the wrong colour because the "blue" boxer was wearing red headgear.

He also said he was so focused on pressing buttons during his first trial that he felt he couldn't properly monitor the overall course of the match.

AIBA is the first federation to have been stripped of the right to organise its own sport at an Olympics.

Formed in 1946, it oversaw decades of signature Olympic moments, notably the 1960 gold medal win in Rome by Muhammad Ali, then known as Cassius Clay.

Relations between AIBA and the IOC took a sharp downward turn following the 2016 Rio Games, when 36 officials and referees were suspended over allegations of bout fixing.

The crisis-riddled body also cycled through a series of presidents, with one forced out over claims of accounting fraud and another replaced after outcry over alleged links to transnational criminal organisations.—AFP

Liverpool reach League Cup quarters after 10-goal thriller against Arsenal

LONDON: After 19 goals on a wild night at Anfield, nine in a penalty shootout, Liverpool ousted Arsenal in the League Cup to reach the quarter-finals.

Arsenal were moments away from advancing in regulation time on Wednesday until Divock Origi's equaliser in the fourth minute of stoppage time made it 5-5.

Then, only Arsenal midfielder Dani Ceballos missed his penalty, allowing teenager Curtis Jones to seal Liverpool's progress with 5-4 shootout victory on Wednesday.

There was less drama at Stamford Bridge but still a stunning winning goal. Marcus Rashford struck a free kick from 30 yards that dipped high into the net to clinch a 2-1 win for Manchester United against Chelsea after the striker's first-half penalty had been canceled out by Michy Batshuayi.

Aston Villa also advanced on Wednesday after Anwar El Ghazi and Ahmed Elmohamady scored in a 2-1 victory over Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Holders Manchester City, Everton and Leicester City joined lower-league sides Colchester United and Oxford United in reaching the quarter-finals on Tuesday.

Both Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp and Arsenal boss Unai Emery made 11 changes for the fourth round tie, but the understudies served up one of the most entertaining games of the season at Anfield as the Gunners squandered multiple leads.

"We were too open at times. We can talk about tactics but who cares on a night like this? I hoped for the boys they would have a game to remember," Klopp said. "It's like a dream for them to play for the first time at Anfield. All our goals were wonderful."

After Granit Xhaka's astonishing outburst at Arsenal fans during Sunday's traumatic Premier League draw with Crystal Palace, this was another body blow for Arsenal, who lost despite leading 3-1, 4-2 and then 5-4 with seconds to go.

"A crazy match. At the end we were winning until the last action. Penalties are 50-50 and we lost. We are sad but we deserve more," Emery said.

With an average age of 23 years and 122 days, it was Liverpool's youngest starting eleven in any competition since January 2017 as teenagers Neco Williams, Harvey Elliott, Rhian Brewster and Sepp van den Berg all featured.

Liverpool's rookies went ahead after just six minutes as Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain sent over a low cross and Arsenal defender Shkodran Mustafi, sliding in to clear, accidentally diverted it into his knee and into the back of his own net.

Arsenal drew level in the 19th minute via an assist from the rarely used Mesut Ozil, who was making his only his third appearance of the season and his first since September 24.

Ozil picked out Bukayo Saka in space and when his shot was saved, the unmarked Lucas Torreira slotted home.

Emery's team took the lead in the 26th minute through Gabriel Martinelli. Martinelli struck again 10 minutes later with his seventh goal in seven appearances this season.

James Milner reduced Liverpool's deficit with a 43rd-minute penalty, before Ainsley Maitland-Niles got Arsenal's fourth goal in the 54th minute.

Oxlade-Chamberlain got one back for Liverpool with a thunderous long-range drive four minutes later.

Divock Origi equalised with an even better strike in the 62nd minute as the Belgian spun sharply before blasting into the top corner from the edge of the area.

But Willock restored Arsenal's lead in the 70th minute with another contender for goal of the night, the midfielder sprinting away before unleashing a 25-yard rocket.

Remarkably, Origi acrobatically volleyed Liverpool's equaliser in stoppage time, setting the stage for their shootout success.—Agencies

LONDON: Manchester United's Marcus Rashford scores from a free kick during their match against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.—Reuters

LIVERPOOL: Liverpool's Divock Origi (second L) scores during the League Cup match against Arsenal at Anfield.—Reuters

Ronaldo hits late Juve winner as Napoli draw against Atalanta

MILAN: Cristiano Ronaldo converted a 96th-minute penalty as Juventus defeated Thiago Motta's Genoa 2-1 to reclaim top spot in Serie A on Wednesday, while Napoli were left seething after conceding a disputed late equaliser against Atalanta.

Ronaldo had a goal disallowed in stoppage time but then won and converted a penalty to seal the victory against Genoa, who played nearly all of the second half with 10 men.

"We believed in it and tried right until the end," Ronaldo said. "We created many opportunities, we wanted to win and with each passing minute the tension increased. We knew that Inter (Milan) had won yesterday and we were second and this was one last chance to push on."

Juve, still unbeaten in all competitions under coach Maurizio Sarri, have 26 points from 10 games, one ahead of Inter who beat Brescia 2-1 on Tuesday. Atalanta remained third but dipped five points behind Juve after rallying to draw 2-2 at Napoli.

Juve were looking to bounce back from a disappointing 1-1 draw at Lecce at the weekend and Leonardo Bonucci headed them in front in the 36th.

But Christian Kouame levelled five minutes later with a fit of luck as he miskicked the ball off his other leg and it wrong-footed Juve goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon.

Francesco Cassata was sent off for a second yellow card five minutes after the interval but Genoa's chances to hold on were boosted when Juve substitute Adrien Rabiot was also dismissed for two bookings three minutes from time.

Ronaldo, who had earlier missed a sitter, thought he had won the match in the fourth minute of stoppage time but the goal was disallowed for offside.

The Portugal international was given a second chance minutes later when he was tripped by Antonio Sanabria and he drove the penalty into the bottom left corner.

Atalanta twice fought back from a goal behind to hold Napoli at the San Paolo, where a fiery ending resulted in red cards for Carlo Ancelotti and his assistant.

Josip Ilicic struck a contentious 86th-minute equaliser that was upheld following a lengthy VAR review, as Napoli appealed for a penalty.

Napoli forward Fernando Llorente tumbled to the ground after jostling with Simon Kjaer in the Atalanta area before the visitors countered and scored through Ilicic.

A five-minute interruption followed before the referee awarded the goal without reviewing the incident on the touchline monitor.

"For the first time I don't want to talk much tonight. I feel offended as a professional and I'm disappointed," Ancelotti said. "The defender doesn't even look at the ball and goes straight for Llorente to try and stop him from jumping. It was a clear penalty. They made a dreadful mistake.

"As far as I'm concerned, you didn't even need VAR but it's ridiculous that the referee didn't go to see the replay ... I don't want to say anything else because I wasn't shown respect and nor was my club."

Nikola Maksimovic had headed Napoli into the lead on 16 minutes, but Remo Freuler levelled just before half-time when his shot squirmed through goalkeeper Alex Meret.

Polish striker Arkadiusz Milik hit the post and crossbar before putting Napoli back on top on 71 minutes when he raced onto a Fabian Ruiz pass and rounded Pierluigi Gollini.

However, Ilicic levelled and nearly grabbed a winner in stoppage time for Atalanta, who stayed third but now trail leaders Juve by five points.

"From the pitch, I thought it was a penalty. Then, seeing the images, I saw a big elbow to Kjaer's face," Atalanta boss Gian Piero Gasperini said of the passage of play that led to his team's controversial equaliser. "The images are very clear. Whoever was in the VAR booth confirmed what the referee saw, but I'm rightly biased."

Napoli remained three points behind Lazio in fourth but fell to sixth.

AS Roma climbed above Napoli into fourth after a 4-0 rout of Udinese despite losing Federico Fazio to a red card on 31 minutes.

Nicolo Zaniolo opened the scoring before the dismissal of Fazio for a foul as the last defender. Chris Smalling doubled Roma's lead early in the second half with a Justin Kluivert goal and Aleksandar Kolarov penalty wrapping up victory.

Lazio are a point further back after beating Torino by the same scoreline as Ciro Immobile struck twice to take his league-leading tally to 12 goals.

Cagliari extended their unbeaten run to eight games with a 3-2 win over Bologna while Fiorentina came from behind to defeat Sassuolo 2-1.

Sampdoria remain rooted to the foot of the table despite Gaston Ramirez salvaging a 1-1 draw with an injury-time equaliser at home to Lecce.—Agencies

TURIN: Juventus' Cristiano Ronaldo celebrates scoring during the Serie A match against Genoa at the Allianz Stadium.—AFP

Top ranked Barty books berth in WTA Finals last four

SHENZHEN: Top-ranked Ash Barty reached the semi-finals in her debut appearance at the WTA Finals, beating Petra Kvitova 6-4, 6-2 Thursday to finish with a 2-1 record in the Red Group.

Barty, the first Australian woman to earn year-end No 1 ranking, won her first Grand Slam trophy at the French Open in June and then reached the top of the rankings.

"I feel like I executed really well tonight," Barty said on court. "Overall, I knew I had to come out here and play aggressively, and play to win.

"I'm really excited to have another chance to come out and play here on this beautiful court."

Barty saved all four break points she faced in the first set and broke Kvitova's serve in the fifth game. The Czech player posted 20 unforced errors in the opening set.

In the first game of the second set, Barty broke Kvitova's serve on her third break point and quickly jumped out to a 4-0 lead.

Kvitova, who won the season-ending title in her debut in 2011, finished the round robin 0-3 for the second consecutive year.

Later in the evening, Belinda Bencic joined Barty in the last four after Kiki Bertens withdrew from their meeting after losing the first set to the Swiss.

Bertens, who came into the tournament after the first round as an injury replacement for Naomi Osaka, called for the doctor after losing the opening set and, after a brief consultation, headed for the locker room and a retirement.

"With Kiki, we were fighting a lot for coming here for the eighth spot for the WTA Finals, so it was nice to have a match for the semi-finals," said Bencic. "But I'm sorry that maybe the gas ran out. It's the end of the season so everyone's exhausted and I wish her the best."

Also on Thursday, Bianca Andreescu withdrew from the tournament with a left knee injury. She will be replaced by Sofia Kenin for the final round robin match on Friday against defending champion Elina Svitolina.

"I had a scan Thursday to check my knee after last night's match, and unfortunately the results show that I need to withdraw," Andreescu said. "I'm very disappointed to not be able to finish the year on my terms, but I am hopeful I will have more chances to play here in the future."—Agencies

SHENZHEN: Czech Republic's Petra Kvitova in action during her WTA Finals match against Ashleigh Barty of Australia at the Shenzhen Bay Sports Center on Thursday.—Reuters

Benzema leads Real to Leganes rout

BARCELONA: Karim Benzema has Real Madrid right on the tailed Barcelona at the top of La Liga.

The French striker scored a penalty and set up two more goals in an easy 5-0 victory over bottom side Leganes on Wednesday, moving Real into second place after stumbles by other teams.

Real climbed to within one point of defending champions Barca. The two force rivals still have a game to play against each other after last round's "Clasico" was postponed until December 18 so as not to coincide with a protest by Catalan separatists.

The other teams that have perched at the top of the table so far all dropped points this round.

Sevilla could only muster a 1-1 draw at Valencia on Wednesday, while Real Sociedad lost 2-1 to Levante at home. Atletico Madrid were held 1-1 at Alaves on Tuesday. Those combined results let Real jump from sixth to second place. Barca were the only top team to also win in the 11th round, thrashing Valladolid 5-1 on Tuesday.

Benzema assisted 18-year-old Rodrygo and Toni Kroos for goals in the sixth and eighth minutes. He set up both team-mates with passes into the six-yard box they could use one touch to finish off.

"Karim did what he always does," said Real coach Zinedine Zidane. "It is important that he scored, but he gives us so much more. He makes it so easy for his other team-mates to play."

Sergio Ramos added a third from a penalty in the 24th that he was able to repeat after having his initial spot kick saved by goalkeeper Juan Soriano, who was adjudged after a video review to have left his line too early. Eden Hazard set up the chance when he was fouled by Soriano.

Real continued to dominate after halftime as Benzema hit the upright shortly before he converted a penalty after Luka Modric was fouled in the box.

That was Benzema's seventh goal in La Liga this season, making him the competition's joint-leading scorer along with Real Betis' Loren Moron.

Substitute Luka Jovic scored his first goal since joining Madrid this summer with a header from a pass by Dani Carvajal in the 90th.

Valencia got an equaliser in the 81st from substitute Ruben Sobrino to salvage the point against Sevilla.

Sobrino headed in a free kick from Dani Parejo to cancel out Lucas Ocampos' strike in first-half injury time.

Iker Muniain scored twice to help Athletic Bilbao end a five-game winless streak by beating Espanyol 3-0 at home. His second goal was a brilliant looping strike from outside the area.

Nabil Fekir netted a 90th-minute winner to left Real Betis over Celta Vigo 2-1 in a clash between two teams needing a victory. Betis' first win in five round extended Celta's streak to four defeats in a row.—AP

MADRID: Real Madrid's Luka Jovic (C) scores during the La Liga match against Leganes at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium.—AFP

Monaco pile on misery for 'disgraceful' Marseille

MONACO: Olympique Marseille's season suffered another setback Wednesday when they were knocked out of the Coupe de la Ligue 2-1 at the hands of AS Monaco, just days after they endured a 4-0 defeat by Paris St Germain in Ligue 1.

With just one win in their last seven matches, the pressure is on coach Andre Villas-Boas with a cup exit compounding Marseille's current seventh position in the league table which sees them already 11 points behind champions PSG in the title race.

"The first half was disgraceful and we had a big talk at half-time. We said it was not possible and it's amazing to compare the first half with the second half," said Villas-Boas.

"We can accept losing to PSG, given their quality but not like this against Monaco. I wanted to win this cup, the team as well. It's a shame as the fans were there for us, from the first to the last minute. Now, we have to give something back to them."

Despite making seven changes from the side which started the 1-0 win over Nantes last weekend, Monaco coach Leonardo Jardim still had enough firepower to see off Marseille.

Both Monaco's goals came in the first half.

Ou-kon striker Jean-Kevin Augustin opened the scoring in the 25th minute from a cross from Ruben Aguilar.

Aguilar added the second goal five minutes from the interval.

Marseille grabbed a consolation in the 77th minute when Benjamin Leconte put through his own goal.

There will be no let up for Marseille this weekend when they welcome third-placed Lille to the Stade Velodrome.—AFP

Brandt double helps Dortmund beat Gladbach

BERLIN: Borussia Dortmund's Julian Brandt scored twice in three minutes late in the second half to help them come from a goal down and beat visitors Borussia Moenchengladbach 2-1 on Wednesday in the German Cup second round.

Germany midfielder Brandt fired in a deflected effort in the 77th minute after Marcus Thuram gave the Bundesliga leaders a deserved lead six minutes earlier.

Brandt was then left completely unmarked in the box to head an 80th-minute the winner, offering his club some respite after a string of bad league results dropped them down to fifth in the table. In a bad tempered finale Gladbach coach Marco Rose was sent off for dissent in stoppage time.

RB Leipzig hammered VfL Wolfsburg, who are still unbeaten in the league, 6-1 with Timo Werner scoring twice, while Werder Bremen beat second tier Heidenheim 4-1. Eintracht Frankfurt beat St Pauli 2-1 and Fortuna Duesldorf won 2-1 against second-division Erzgebirge Aue.

Hertha Berlin defeated second-division Dynamo Dresden 5-4 on penalties. Hertha defender Jordan Torunarigha scored in injury time of extra time to level the game 2-2 and send it to the penalty shootout.

In another match decided by a penalty shootout, two-time German Cup winners Kaiserslautern won 6-5 over Nuremberg, after the score finished 2-2 following extra time.

Third-division Kaiserslautern and fourth-tier side SC Verl had shootout wins over second-division sides Nuremberg and Holstein Kiel, respectively.—Agencies

Shadab shines as Pakistan down CA XI in T20 warm-up

BANKSTOWN: Leg-spinner Shadab Khan claimed three scalps as Pakistan warmed up for their Twenty20 International series against Australia with a comfortable six-wicket win on Thursday against the Cricket Australia XI in Bankstown, a south west suburb of Sydney.

After Shadab took 3-30 in Pakistan's opening fixture of the tour at Bankstown Oval, the visitors chased down their target of 135 with 13 balls to spare.

Opener Fakhar Zaman hammered 43 off 39 deliveries in the chase, while new skipper Babar Azam hit 34 from 29 balls and Haris Sohail powered to 32 from just 22 balls before being bowled by last bowler Ben Dwarshuis (2-18).

But the power-hitting Asif Ali perished for a second-ball duck, caught behind off Dwarshuis before Mohammad Rizwan and Iftikhar Ahmed completed the last rites as Pakistan won with 13 deliveries to spare.

Earlier in the day giant Pakistan left-arm paceman Mohammad Irfan began the tour with a wicket on the first ball of the match, producing an innswinging yorker to clean up CA XI opener Ryan Gibson.

But Shadab was easily the tourists' best bowler after he went through the CA XI's middle order.

The former Brisbane Heat spinner had Alex Ross (17) and Nathan McSweeney (30) both caught on the sweep and trapped Baxter Holt (18) lbw to finish with excellent figures of 3-30 and man-of-the-match award.

Chris Lynn, who led the CA XI, whacked 24 off 16 for the inexperienced hosts, with all but two of his runs coming in boundaries.

But the out-of-favour Australian right-hander was bowled by Wahab Riaz after hitting the left-arm speickie for six, denting his push for a return to the national short-form side.

Pakistan are currently the No.1 ranked side in the world in Twenty20 cricket and will start their three-match series against Australia on Sunday at the Sydney Cricket Ground. —Agencies

BANKSTOWN: Cricket Australia XI skipper Chris Lynn is cleaned up by Pakistan paceman Wahab Riaz during the T20 practice match at the Bankstown Oval on Thursday.—Courtesy AAP

Maxwell takes break to overcome mental health problems

MELBOURNE: Australia all-rounder Glenn Maxwell is taking an indefinite break from cricket with immediate effect as he undergoes treatment for mental health issues, head coach Justin Langer said on Thursday.

Maxwell, who played in Australia's two Twenty20 International wins against Sri Lanka in recent days and starred in the Adelaide series-opener, will be replaced by batsman D'Arcy Short for the third and final match in Melbourne on Friday and the upcoming series of three more fixtures against Pakistan, starting from Sunday in Sydney.

Langer said he had spoken to Maxwell after sensing something was amiss with the hard-hitting 31-year-old before the Adelaide game, Australia's first international of the home summer.

"I'm not sure what prompted [it] just before Adelaide," Langer told reporters in Melbourne. "But you just could tell it was not quite right and he probably wasn't going to say [anything].

"Even though in Adelaide he had that incredible innings and fielded like a genius like he can, I don't think he got much joy out of it, to be honest."

Australian team psychologist Dr Michael Lloyd said: "Maxwell has been experiencing some difficulties with regards to his mental health. As a result, he will spend a short time away from the game ... Glenn was proactive in identifying these issues and engaging with support staff."

A fan favourite and one of Australia's most devastating batsmen in short-format cricket, Maxwell was in fine touch at Adelaide Oval where he blasted 62 off 29 balls to hasten his team to a 134-run victory.

He was also his usual energetic presence in the field, effecting a brilliant run-out and engaging in banter with broadcasters.

"They often put on a mask," Langer said of people suffering mental health problems. "In public positions they have to put on a mask all the time. That's his armour, his energy and the way he plays."

Maxwell, who has played 110 One-day Internationals and 61 Twenty20 Internationals, will be assessed in Melbourne over the next day or so, Langer said.

Melbourne native Maxwell ranks among Australia's top-earning athletes, enjoying global prestige as a coveted gun-for-hire in domestic T20 competitions.

But his goal of breaking into the test side, seen as the pinnacle of the sport in Australia, has largely been frustrated.

He has been dropped several times in his career of seven Tests and was snubbed for the Ashes series played in England over August-September. Australia retained the urn.

While a number of local pundits felt selectors had dealt with Maxwell harshly, the cricketer said he had moved on.

"You can't play cricket bitter, it detracts from yourself and makes you stop concentrating on what you need to do," Maxwell said in a recent interview.

A number of top Australian cricketers have battled mental health problems in recent years.

Mash-hyped talent Will Pucovski took a break from domestic cricket a year ago and also withdrew from the test squad in January to undergo treatment.

Ramsan Nic Maddinson also took time off in 2017 after being dropped from the Test side before returning to the game after treatment.—Agencies

TOKYO: New Zealand players take part in the Captain's Run at Tatsumnomori Seaside Park on Thursday, on the eve of their Rugby World Cup bronze medal match against Wales.—AFP

Sangakkara to lead MCC against Essex

LONDON: Sri Lankan cricket legend Kumar Sangakkara, the first ever-won president of the Marylebone Cricket Club, will captain the MCC against English county champions Essex in Sri Lanka next March, it was announced on Thursday.

The 42-year-old batting great — whose 15-year international career encompassed 134 Test appearances and over 400 One-day Internationals — will lead out his side in the English domestic season's traditional curtain-raiser at the Galle International Stadium from March 24 to 27.

The clash between the MCC and the champions dates back to 1970 and has been played abroad since 2011 — the last edition in Dubai suffered from that most English of interruptions... rain.

Sri Lanka has been selected for several reasons: the MCC's World Cricket committee will meet there in March, and the match is timed to coincide with England's World Test Championship matches in the country.

Sangakkara, who became MCC President on Oct 1, said the game would be of huge benefit to the sport in Sri Lanka.

"It is hugely important to support cricket in countries such as Sri Lanka and taking the Champion County match to Galle is a fantastic way for the Club to provide its backing for the game on a global level," he said in a statement.

Shammi Silva, president of Sri Lanka Cricket, said it was an honour and privilege to have been chosen as the hosts.—AFP

Morgan to decide his future after T20 World Cup

CHRISTCHURCH: England's limited-overs captain Eoin Morgan will take a call on his future after next year's Twenty20 World Cup in England, the 33-year-old said.

Morgan led England to their maiden ODI World Cup victory in July on home soil but has battled back injuries in recent years.

"I won't say I'll be finished after the next World Cup as I'd be afraid I'll only creep over the line and maybe fall off," Morgan told reporters on the eve of the five-match Twenty20 International series against New Zealand. "I don't want to let anyone down. I want to drive through the World Cup in Australia and then make a call after that.

"We have a special group of players at the moment. I feel very lucky to lead that group and I think we can do something even more special down the line."

England have rested Ben Stokes, Jofra Archer, Jos Buttler and Jason Roy for the Twenty20 series against a side they edged out on boundary count in the final of the ODI World Cup at Lord's.

England have included five uncapped players in their Twenty20 mix though Morgan felt it may not be easy for them to break into the World Cup squad.

"There aren't a lot of places up for grabs in our best XI and probably our final 15 for 12 months down the line. But we're not only building for 12 months down the line but the following World Cup as well.

"I think we're in a reasonably strong position. We'll look to build our best XI and 15 for every series leading in to fine-tune roles and have absolute clarity in what we're trying to do as a team."—Reuters

CA record surplus during healing year

MELBOURNE: Cricket Australia (CA) said they had recorded an operating surplus of 18.2 million Australian dollars (€12.3 million) in a year of 'healing' following the ball-tampering scandal in South Africa.

That amount in the 2018-19 financial year was nearly double the operating surplus from the previous 12 months, the CA annual general meeting was told on Thursday.

They said there had been a dramatic improvement in player behavior code of conduct charges dropped 74% at all levels from national teams to country competitions.

In March 2018, then-Test captain Steve Smith, David Warner and Cameron Bancroft were suspended for the roles they played in a plot to alter the condition of the ball by using sandpaper during a test match in Cape Town against South Africa.

The annual report also said that during the 2018-19 season, more than 2.16 million people attended international, one-day and Twenty20 men's and women's matches, a record figure in a non-Ashes year.—AP

SHANGHAI: China's Li Haotong plays a shot during the WGC-HSBC Champions on Thursday.—AFP

Local favourite Li earns one-shot lead in Shanghai

SHANGHAI: Local favourite Li Haotong returned to form and rode a wave of home support to grab the first-round lead at the WGC-HSBC Champions tournament in Shanghai on Thursday.

Li, one of seven Chinese players in the field, carded an eight-under par 64, capping off his day by sinking a 12-foot par-saving putt at his final hole as the gallery roared in approval at Sheshan International.

Li opened with two birdies and finished the back nine with two birdies. And after his lone mistake on the par-4 first hole, he responded with a 4-iron that set up eagle and led to the loudest cheer of a calm afternoon.

He holds a one-shot advantage over Frenchman Victor Perez, while American defending champion Xander Schauffele, Australian Adam Scott, South Korean Im Sung-jae and Englishman Matthew Fitzpatrick are two behind in the World Golf Championships event.

Rory McIlroy had three bogeys on the back nine and was going nowhere at even par until he ran off four straight birdies on the front and got in the mix quick with a 67, while South African Louis Oosthuizen had a hole-in-one from 197 yards at the sixth on the way to a 68.

Phil Mickelson, in danger of falling out of the top 50 for the first time in nearly 26 years, opened with a 71.

Sheshan International is in prime condition with thick rough and firm fairways and greens. It's a stronger test than in recent years, though the calm conditions allowed for so many low scores. Nearly one-third of the field broke 70.

It was plenty tough for Hideki Matsuyama, who won here in 2016 and is coming off a runner-up finish to Tiger Woods last week in the Zozo Championship in Japan. He managed only two birdies, finished with a double bogey and shot 75, ending a streak of six straight rounds in the 60s.

The event features 15 past Major winners including Justin Rose, Bubba Watson, Sergio Garcia and Jordan Spieth, but top-ranked Brooks Koepka and a resurgent Woods skipped it.

The WGC-HSBC Champions has a purse of $10.25 million, with $1.7 million going to the winner, and is the third and final leg of the PGA Tour's Asian swing.—Agencies

Gough named consultant for NZ Tests

LONDON: Former seamer Darren Gough has been appointed as England's fast-bowling consultant for the warm-up period leading into November's two-Test tour of New Zealand, the country's cricket board (ECB) said on Wednesday.

Gough claimed 229 wickets in 58 Tests for England between 1994 and 2003.

"I'm delighted to have Darren on board," England head coach Chris Silverwood said in a statement. "I have known him a long time and his vast knowledge and experience at international level will drive our bowling unit forward leading into the two-match Test series. He will be excellent around the group and will settle in quickly."

England are without a bowling coach after Silverwood was promoted to head coach's role earlier this month.

Gough, a former Yorkshire team-mate of Silverwood, will join the Test squad in Auckland on Nov 5 and will work with the pace attack for two weeks before the first Test in Mount Maunganui which begins on Nov 21.

"It is a tremendous honour to be asked by Chris Silverwood and Ashley Giles to be involved in this elite environment," Gough said. "I will gain a lot from the experience and to work at this level will benefit me as a coach for the long-term."—Reuters

Sharma content with random captaincy honour

NEW DELHI: Captaining India is such an honour for Rohit Sharma that he would not fuss whether it's full time or sporadic, the stylish opener said on Thursday.

Virat Kohli leads India across formats but former players including Yuvraj Singh see merit in split captaincy with limited-overs stalwart Sharma as the white-ball leader.

Sharma captained India to Asia Cup victory last year and, with Kohli resting, will lead the side again in the three-match Twenty20 series against Bangladesh starting in New Delhi on Sunday.

Sharma has also polished his leadership credentials by leading Mumbai Indians to four Indian Premier League titles but was not too hung up on permanent captaincy in the shorter formats.

"Look, these are beyond our controls," Sharma, the only batsman with three 200-plus scores in One-day Internationals, told reporters on Thursday. "Captaining India is a massive honour, be it for one match, 10 matches or 100 matches. When we were younger, the dream we had was of playing for India, not of leading India.

"I got this opportunity to lead the team, and it's a great honour. I have captained team in the past and it was a good experience.

"I never think 'why did they make me captain for just one series or two series. Why not for a full year?'.

"I don't think or even talk about these things. Whenever I get these opportunities, I happily shoulder the responsibility and try to set an example."

The 32-year-old Mumbai player has revived his stop-start long-format career by reinventing himself as a Test opener in the 3-0 rout of South Africa earlier this month.

Rohit, who was adjudged man of the series after finishing as the top scorer, will face a new challenge in the two-Test series against Bangladesh, which will include a day-night Test in Kolkata.

"It will be very exciting, it being our first Test in pink ball," he said. "I can't talk about others but I played a Duleep Trophy match with pink balls and it was a good experience.

"We have been waiting to play a Test with pink balls and finally the opportunity is here. We will try to do well and get all 60 points [under World Test Championship]."—Reuters

DAWN

KARACHI Friday, November 1, 2019

METRO South

KARACHI
Sunset 05:52 pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 06:39 am

NEXT 24 HRS
Minimum 24°C
Maximum 35°C
Outlook Showers / clear

Shadab shines as Pakistan down CA XI in T20 warm-up

Pg.22 SPORT

PEOPLE headed to the Tableeghi Jamaat gathering in Raiwind board a train at Cantt Station on Thursday — Online

Siraj wants minister to 'take responsibility' for deaths in train fire

'Pakistan Railways would provide free travel from Karachi to immediate family members'

Dawn Report

KARACHI: Expressing his deep sorrow over the train fire tragedy, in which more than 70 people were killed near Rahim Yar Khan on Thursday morning, Jamaat-i-Islami chief Sirajul Haq urged the Supreme Court to take suo moto notice of the incident and ensure exemplary punishment to those responsible for it.

Calling for a judicial probe into the incident, he demanded that the railways minister, Shaikh Rashid Ahmed, take responsibility for the deaths. He asked Prime Minister Imran Khan who he held responsible for the train tragedy.

Addressing a press conference with retired Justice Wajihuddin Ahmed, he also criticised the 'containerisation' of Islamabad and the related hullabaloo that had muffled the voice of the oppressed people of India-held Kashmir.

Murad orders relief measures

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, expressing his grief over the tragic incident, directed the divisional administrations of Hyderabad, Sukkur, Nawabshah, Mirpurkhas and Karachi to keep close contact with the Railways authorities and the Bahawalpur commissioner to transport back the dead and injured belonging to Sindh.

The chief minister told the commissioners of different divisions of the province that over 40 passengers of ill-fated Tezgam Express hailed from Karachi, Hyderabad and Mirpurkhas. Their families were running from pillar to post to get firsthand information about their dear ones onboard the train.

He directed Commissioner of Hyderabad Abbas Baloch to set up a special desk in the DC office so that the bereaved families could contact it for necessary information.

He also directed him to make necessary arrangements for shifting of bodies and the injured people from Rahim Yar Khan back to Sindh. The chief minister also issued a similar directive to the commissioners of Karachi, Mirpurkhas and Sukkur.

Mr Shah through his principal secretary Sajid Jamal Abro offered every possible support to the Railways authorities and the Punjab government for retrieval of the bodies from the train and treatment of the passengers with burn injuries.

He said that his government and the people of Sindh were in great shock to see such a huge loss of lives in the train incident. "May Allah save our people and the country from such horrible incidents," said the chief minister.

Hospital emergency

The Sindh health ministry has asked authorities at all the major hospitals in Karachi, Hyderabad and Sukkur to declare an emergency in their facilities to take care of the victims of the train incident as most of

Continued on Page 16

Around 12 students affected as gas shell falls near school during police training

Police officials promise to review training strategy to avert such incidents

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: Around a dozen schoolchildren were affected by tear-gas shelling and smoke coming from the Razzaqabad police training centre during training of policemen on Thursday, officials said.

The condition of two girls was stated to be serious.

DIG East Amir Farooqi told *Dawn* that police trainees were getting anti-riot training of how to fire tear-gas shells at the Shaheed Benazir Bhutto police training centre on the National Highway. Apparently because of the wind direction, gas fumes swept into a nearby school.

Some children, aged from eight to 10, got breathing problems and a few of them started vomiting. They were taken to hospital and after first aid, most of them were discharged.

Shah Latif Town SHO Rana Maqsood said that Amna, 13, and Sameen, 14, were taken to the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre for further treatment as their condition was "serious".

He added that around a dozen children were affected, who were immediately rescued by the police and water was given to them.

The incident triggered anger among the teachers, area residents and students, who held a protest demonstration there. The police and training centre officials met the protesters and assured them of proper treatment of the children and preventing such incidents in the future.

It also prompted the higher authorities to take notice.

DIG (training) Zulfiqar Larik in a statement said that a gas shell was carried by the strong winds coming from the opposite direction and it landed outside the centre near the school.

The DIG promised to review the training strategy and make foolproof arrangements in future to avert such incidents.

Man found murdered

A man was found murdered in Sohrab Goth on Thursday, police said.

They added that the body of the

Continued on Page 16

Cyclone Maha poses no threat to Pakistan coast

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: As Cyclone Kyaar dissipates off the coast of Somalia, another cyclonic storm building up in the Arabian Sea is being predicted to gain intensity and turn into a severe cyclonic storm over the next 24 hours, a Meteorological department official stated on Thursday.

Maha — the current cyclonic storm — is far away from Pakistan and poses no threat to its coast.

"Cyclonic storm Maha has moved north-north westwards during the last 12 hours and is likely to track north-westwards and intensify more as a severe cyclonic storm during the next 24 hours," says the Met department website.

According to the department's spokesperson, Maha was 1,400km away from Karachi's coast on Thursday night, surrounded by winds having speed between 63km per hour and 87km per hour.

"It's likely to gain more intensity and move towards Oman gradually whereas Cyclone Kyaar is currently moving parallel to Oman and Yemen. It's likely to weaken into a depression by tomorrow and gradually dissipate over waters off the coast of Somalia," said Sardar Sarfaraz.

Sindh govt plans to set up history museum

By Our Staff Reporter

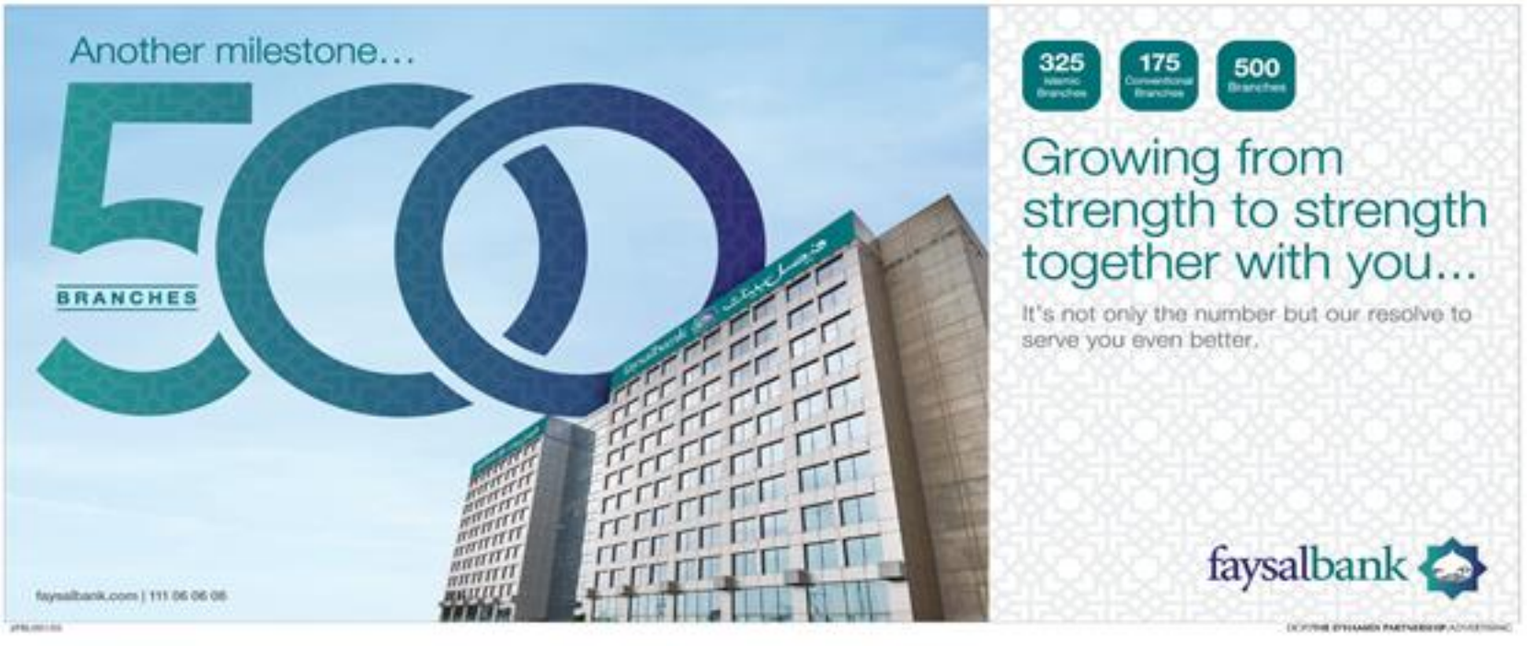
KARACHI: The Sindh government is planning to establish a history museum and cultural centre in Karachi with the collaboration of the Citizens Archive of Pakistan (CAP).

This emerged during a meeting held here on Thursday.

The meeting, presided over by Chief Secretary Syed Mumtaz Ali Shah, was attended among others by Commissioner of Karachi Iftikhar Ahmed Shallwani and two-time Academy Award-winning film-maker and patron-in-chief of CAP Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy.

The chief secretary said the museum and cultural centre would aim to engage citizens with interactive and special exhibits centred on Pakistan's history with sections dedicated to Sindh and the city of Karachi.

Ms Obaid-Chinoy stated that the museum would showcase numerous stories of Pakistan's culture and history using rich archival content such as photographs, newspaper articles, personal letters, firsthand audio accounts and state-of-the-art learning. There would be sections related to the birth of Pakistan, history of Sindh, Karachi and children.



PRAYER

Fajr	5.05
Juma	12.21
Asr	4.43
Maghreb	6.21
Isha	7.37

Waiting time in Karachi

REFLECTIONS

"AN ADVICE: DO NOT LOSE HOPE IN GOD'S MERCY, AT THE SAME TIME DO NOT TAKE FOR GRANTED IMMUNITY FROM HIS PUNISHMENT."

— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)

METRO EVENT

EXHIBITION

A solo show featuring works by Waleed Zafar opens at the Full Circle gallery at 5pm. The show titled *Re-Punctuated* will remain open till Nov 15.

Protest held against shutting down of artwork

By Peerzada Salman

KARACHI: Artists, members of civil society and social activists gathered at Frere Hall on Thursday evening to register their protest against the shutting down by law enforcement agencies on Sunday of an art installation that was on display as part of the ongoing Karachi Biennale (KB19).

The protesters led by artist Sheema Kermani started gathering at the venue from the time given by the organisers, some symbolically wearing black clothes, others white. They made cows, as were depicted in the artwork by Adeela Suleman which was closed down, and sat down. Then they began chanting lines such as *haan zia hairi jo nawaik naahon mein maarey gay* (we were put to death on benighted roads). The chants slowly grew louder. After that the participants lay down on the floor.

Talking to *Dawn* artist Yasir Husain, whose artwork is displayed at Bagh Ibne Qasim as a KB19 exhibit, said, "The biennale organisers have the responsibility to look after their artists, but the way they tolerated what happened to Adeela's work is a question that they haven't been asking. They could've come here."

When asked whether he had talked to the biennale officials, Husain replied, "I haven't talked to them directly but have sent them quite a few messages. They haven't responded."

Mr Husain said protests such as the one that took place on Thursday carry a message that one can see and the symbolism of it is that there are both flowers and thorns here. "This is symbolism we've been using for a long time."

Addressing her fellow protesters, Ms Kermani said art and politics could not be separated. "The water that we drink, clean or not, the cleanliness issue, etc ... everything is to do with politics. The purpose of art is to create awareness in society and help people think [about issues]."

Those who took part in the protest included politician Ghinwa Bhutto, educationist Ameena Saiyid, architect Arif Hasan, writer Rumana Husain, social activists Mehnaz Rehman, Ambareen Thompson, Shabnam Abdullah, Jibran Nasir, among others.

ACTIVISTS lie on the floor in an act of protest at Frere Hall on Thursday — White Star

MANY grown-up trees stand mowed on M.A. Jinnah Road on Thursday in the city, which is fast losing greenery to concrete structures. — Online

Law dept notice suspended by SHC

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court on Thursday suspended a notification of the Sindh law department about de-notifying six law officers and issued notices to respondents for Nov 12.

A two-judge bench headed by Justice Mohammad Shafi Siddiqui issued notices to the advocate general of Sindh as well as to the respondents and said that in the meantime, the operation of the impugned notification will remain suspended.

The additional advocate general of Sindh Ghulam Mustafa Mahesar and assistant advocate general Ghulam Abbas Sangi challenged the notification issued on Oct 24 to de-notify them and four other additional and assistant advocates general.

The bench in its order said lawyers for the petitioners argued that this was a violation of the Sindh Government Rules of Business since it was the authority of the governor to issue such notification.

They further argued that in terms of Schedule-IV the subject issue was included in the list requiring order of the governor on the advice of the chief minister; the notification was devoid of such exercise.

The court order further said that the lawyer for the second petitioner also relied upon the Sindh Law Officers (Conditions of Services) Rules for Conduct of Legal Affairs of Government of Sindh which claimed to be violated.

The petitioners, who were appointed in 2017, impleaded the province of Sindh through secretary of law and governor of Sindh through principal secretary as respondents.

Court seeks compromise papers signed in Nashwa death case

Teacher remanded for torturing student

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: A district court has directed the relevant parties to submit the out-of-court compromise signed between the parties in a case pertaining to the death of a nine-month-old girl, Nashwa, allegedly after wrong treatment at a private hospital.

Two medical staffers have been charged with improperly treating the child at the Darul Sehat Hospital on April 7 that paralysed her and led to her death.

The matter came up before district and sessions' judge (East) Khalid Hussain Shahani, when the counsel for the parties informed that their clients had already reached an out-of-court settlement.

The judge directed the investigating officer of the case and the counsel for the parties to submit such an agreement reportedly reached and signed between their clients and fixed the matter on Nov 2.

The court has already accepted acquittal applications filed by the hospital's owner and chairman Amir Waliuddin Chishti, vice-chairman Syed Ali Farhan and executive director Shahzad Alam and exonerated them of the charges of negligence that led to the death of the child "in the light of the compromise between the parties and the investigation report".

In May, the IO had filed an investigation report mentioning that the complainant, the father of the deceased child, had signed a compromise with other suspects agreeing to withdraw the case under certain conditions.

In his affidavit submitted to the judicial magistrate concerned, the father had mentioned that he and other family members had pardoned all the nominated key administration and medical staffers without accepting any compensation.

Teacher's torture on student

A judicial magistrate on Thursday remanded a private school's teacher in judicial custody for two days in a case pertaining to allegedly torturing a student.

Police claimed to have booked and arrested Samreen Nadim for physically torturing Maya Zulfiqar, a class-II student at a school in Orangi Town within the remit of the Iqbal Market police station.

On Thursday, the IO produced the suspect upon expiry of her two-day physical remand in police custody and requested for extension in the same.

The IO mentioned in the remand papers that the medico-legal examination report had confirmed that the child was beaten with wooden stick by the teacher breaking the child's fingers and leaving marks of lashes on her legs.

He claimed that the suspect in custody had also confessed to have subjected the child to corporal punishment for not having done her Urdu homework.

After beating in the classroom, the teacher allegedly took the child to the school's rooftop, where she was again tortured, he added.

However, the judge turned down the IO's request for extension in the suspect's physical custody to the police. The judge remanded her in judicial custody for two days with direction to produce her on the next date along with an investigation report.

A case has been registered under Sections 337-D (punishment for *jaljalt*), 34E (punishment for wrongful restraint), 506-B (punishment for criminal intimidation) and 109 (abetment) of the Pakistan Penal Code on the complaint of the victim's mother, Nazia Zulfiqar.

Blood donation awareness campaign launched

KARACHI: The Sindh Blood Transfusion Authority (SBTA) has launched a massive public awareness campaign to promote voluntary blood donations in Sindh.

Director of the SBTA Dr Durdnaz Jamal, while talking to PPI, said a massive public awareness campaign had been launched in different districts of Sindh with a view to promoting voluntary blood donation.

She said that the SBTA teams were conducting awareness programmes in Sukkur, Larkana, Shikarpur and Jacobabad this week.

She added that doctors, paramedical staff, nurses and the general public would be sensitised during the drive to increase blood donation.

She said that voluntary blood donation ratio in Pakistan, particularly in Sindh, was very low and only family members donated blood at the time of emergency.

She said the STBA teams had conducted a public awareness programme in Nawabshah recently where a big number of medical students, citizens and medical staff donated blood.

Dr Jamal informed that Regional Blood Transfusion Centre (RBTC) Karachi would be opened for public by the end of November and this centre would be run under a public-private partnership.

She said that citizens would be able to get screened blood in near future whenever needed.—PPI

Siraj wants minister to 'take responsibility'

Continued from Page 15

the passengers belonged to Sindh.

An order has been sent to the major hospitals in the three cities. It said many of the victims belonged to Sindh.

"Hence, your are advised to declare emergency or high alert in your hospitals and make all necessary arrangements in the burn wards, including availability of doctors and paramedics and all essential medicines," said the order.

'Only 10 of the dead identified'

According to information shared by Pakistan Railways, the total number of passengers in the train was 865.

The two coaches of Tezgam Express in which the cylinder and stove explosion took place were completely booked under the title of 'Ameer Hussain and Jamaat'.

Passengers boarded these coaches at Hyderabad, Nawabshah, Mehrabpur and Rohri.

Earlier, 610 passengers had boarded the train at the Cantonment Railway Station in Karachi. At Hyderabad, 93 boarded and 106 boarded at Tando Mohammad Khan with 15 joining them at Shahdadpur with five at Nawabshah, 16 at Mehrabpur, 17 at Rohri and five at Khairpur.

Jamshaid Alam, office divisional superintendent Railways Karachi, said that at the City Station here they were doing their best to manage the post-incident crisis. "The list of passengers who died will be shared once we receive it from Multan division," he said.

He also said that the family members of the deceased or injured who wanted to travel to Rahim Yar Khan would be 'facilitated'.

"Pakistan Railways would provide free travel from Karachi to immediate family members," he said.

Regarding the train operations from Karachi, he said that all trains for upcountry would remain on schedule.

On the directions of Chairman Railways Sikandar Sultan Raja, help desks for giving out information to relatives of the passengers have been set up at various railways stations of the country.

The help desk numbers, including personnel numbers, are as follows: Karachi: 021-99213528, Hyderabad: 0300-3026200, Sukkur: 071-9310987, Multan: 061-9200382 and 0313-4403720 (DCO Multan), Rahim Yar Khan: 0302-7245600 (Station Master Maqbool) and 0300-8079357 (TCR Hasnain), and Lahore: 042-99201795.

Details from Hyderabad

The upcountry Tezgam had arrived from Karachi at 8.35pm on Wednesday night and with a five-minute stop it left for Punjab at 8.40pm.

People kept visiting the railway station to get information about passengers who had boarded the train at Hyderabad.

Railway officials on Thursday afternoon displayed a list of those injured and those who lost their lives following the tragedy in Rahim Yar Khan.

Around 12 students affected

Continued from Page 15

man, identified as Ahmad Ali, was found on an empty plot near his home in Noor Khan Goth.

Area SHO Ghulam Rasool Siyal said the victim, a labourer, lived with his family there. The murder appeared to be an outcome of some personal enmity.

The police registered a case against unknown suspects.

Woman dies from consuming poison

A 26-year-old woman died from consuming a poisonous substance in Gulistan-i-Jauhar on Thursday, police said.

They added that Ms Arifa took the substance at Jauhar Mor. She was taken to a nearby private hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

Shareea Faisal SHO Sarwar 'Commando' said the relatives of the woman told the police that she had committed "suicide" over some domestic issues. However, they took away the body without allowing the police to fulfil legal formalities.

'Police working to address gender-based violence'

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The Sindh police here established a human rights cell and a women and child protection cell to address gender-based violence complaints. The department has also initiated hiring transgender persons and providing international exposure to its female officials so they could improve their skills in combating gender-based violence.

This was stated by Inspector General of Police (Sindh) Dr Syed Kaleem Imam at a conference organised by the Strengthening Participatory Organisation (SPO) at a hotel here on Wednesday.

The programme aimed at assessing the progress achieved under the project — policy advocacy and research to strengthen implementation of pro-women legislation and gender-based violence response services in Sindh.

The event opened with welcome remarks by SPO board member Sadiqa Salahuddin, who explained the role of civil society in gender-based response and implementation of pro-women laws.

Barrister Maliha Zia, an expert on laws related to gender-based violence and a member of the Provincial Steering Forum, talked about the efforts made by the forum to advocate for pro-women laws over the last two years.

The forum formed by the SPO included government officials, experts on gender-based violence and members of civil society and the media to review and advocate for pro-women laws.

Chairperson of the Sindh Commission on the Status of Women Nuzhat Shirin spoke about the struggle of the commission in the implementation of pro-women laws, including laws against domestic violence and rape.

Opposition Leader in the Sindh Assembly Firdaus Shamim Naqvi called for women's empowerment and said that everyone needed to contribute to this goal while lawmakers and government institutions had the responsibility to ensure implementation of the laws aimed at protecting women's dignity and rights.

IGP Dr Syed Kaleem Imam highlighted efforts of his department in implementing pro-women laws and said it was equally important to create awareness in society of this subject so that one could see an enhanced impact of these efforts.

In her speech, chief guest Minister for Women Development Syeda Shehla Raza called for greater collaboration between the public and private sectors to help women facing violence, while appreciating civil society organisations for proposing, drafting and extending support in the implementation of laws related to women and children.

MPA Mohammad Qasim Soomro, MPA Rana Ansar and Arifa Mazhar, representing the SPO, also spoke.

Probe team gets rewards for arresting anchor's 'killers'

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: Police authorities on Thursday awarded cash and other rewards to the investigation team that probed the murder case of BOL TV anchor Mureed Abbas and his friend over a monetary dispute in Defence recently and succeeded in arresting the suspects, according to officials.

DIG South Sharjeel Kharal said that the probe team had succeeded in arresting fugitive suspect Adil Zaman, brother of prime suspect in the murder case, Atif Zaman.

He said that raids had been conducted in Mansehra, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and several other places for the arrest of the suspect.

At one stage when he found out that a police party was looking for him in the town he fled to Karachi, he said.

The probe team chased him to Karachi and arrested him at a hotel in Saddar with the help of hotel record. Police also recovered license of the pistol which was used in the murder and a motorcycle, he said.

The DIG said the police also remained in constant contact with the murder victim's family members and widow of late Abbas.

Doctor booked after death of expecting mother

By Our Correspondent

KHAIRPUR: A lady doctor was booked in a case of negligence leading to the death of an expecting mother, Rozina Bugti, on the complaint of her husband, Altaf Bugti, on Thursday.

The complainant, a resident of Haji Allah Wasayo Bugti village, lodged the FIR at the A-Section police station stating that the lady doctor — a former medical superintendent of the Khairpur Civil Hospital — had undertaken the normal delivery along with her staff nurses at her private hospital. However, he added, his wife fell unconscious due to excessive bleeding and was rushed back to the hospital. He said the doctor declined to handle the case and forced him to take the patient away though she and her newborn were in critical condition.

He alleged that the lady doctor got the patient forcibly pushed out of the hospital by her staff.

Mr Bugti said he took his wife and baby to another hospital where she was declared dead due to excessive bleeding while the baby was admitted for treatment.

Salu entry test

SUKKUR: More than 200 candidates appeared in the entry test held at Shah Abdul Latif University (Salu) on its Ghotki campus on Thursday for taking admission in the subjects of computer science, business administration, information technology and English language.

The candidates, including girls and boys, belonged to different areas of Ghotki district including Ghotki, Mirpur Mathelo, Daharki, Ubauro, Khanpur, Pano Akil and others.

A ban was imposed on bringing mobile phones to the centre.—Correspondent

Police operation

SUKKUR: A strong contingent of police backed by armoured personnel carriers (APCs) on Thursday bulldozed all barricades and trenches which, they claimed, were put up by "harbourers of criminals" in the katcha area of Jacobabad and also torched several straw-made houses.

The operation, led by Jacobabad SSP Bashir Brohi, was launched after the police failed to track down some criminals who had shot dead a man during a house robbery in the nearby Ramzan Mugheri village on Tuesday.—Correspondent

SUKKUR: NAB chairman retired Justice Javed Iqbal presents a cheque for Rs10 billion to senior member of the Board of Revenue at a programme here on Thursday.—APP

NAB chairman urges IOs not to turn offices into police stations

By Our Correspondent

SUKKUR: National Accountability Bureau (NAB) chairman retired Justice Javed Iqbal has urged investigation officers not to turn their offices into police stations and discourage thana culture in NAB.

He said at a gathering here on Thursday that NAB had done away with the need for use of handcuffs and, therefore, no suspect should and would ever be handcuffed.

He criticised some investigation officers who refused to learn and prove their worth in courts and said that there were some who did not know even the simple basics of an investigation.

He said that it was unacceptable that a seemingly strong case was thrown out by a court only due to technical mistakes committed by an inefficient IO. Such an officer would not be spared and he would have to face the music for his weakness, he warned.

He said that NAB focused on mega corruption cases and it was the bureau's first priority to see such cases through to their logical end. During the last 23 months, at least 600 references about irregularities had been sent to NAB courts, he said.

He said that NAB believed in a policy of across the board accountability of everyone regardless of his or her social standing and said that the bureau did not care about political or other affiliation of a suspect and it zeroed in on corruption only.

He said that he had taken notice of a phone call through which a NAB officer's transfer was recommended. From now on, no NAB officer would call a suspect by phone and would summon him or her through a written notice, he said. No NAB officer would call any government official in future and seek recommendation in favour of somebody or something.

Mr Iqbal said that he had received reports about dishonesty and irresponsibility of NAB officers in Sukkur region and said he was himself investigating the allegations. If the charges proved true stern action would be taken against the guilty ones, he warned.

He said in a lighter vein that health of Sukkur NAB officials and personnel appeared to be better than others which was not bad, especially after substantial raise in their pay, but they should also make time for regular walk to burn extra calories and remain smart.

He said that conviction rate in past was much better than today because of flaws in investigation and inefficiency of some IOs. One should never feel ashamed at accepting one's inefficiency but one should certainly be ashamed at not working hard to get rid of that weakness.

10,195 drug-resistant typhoid cases reported in Sindh in less than three years

'Some 2,999 cases were reported in Karachi in August'

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: An estimated 10,195 cases of extensively drug resistant (XDR) typhoid have been reported in Sindh from November 2016 to August 2019. Most of these cases were reported in Karachi and Hyderabad and involved children under the age of 15 years.

This information was shared by experts during a public awareness seminar at Karachi University, jointly organised by the health department and Dr Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research and Virtual Education Project Pakistan.

Giving a presentation on typhoid fever, Dr Khalid Zuberi, an associate professor at the Dow Medical College, said the bacterial infection caused by Salmonella typhi was rare in developed countries, but it remained a serious health threat in low-income and middle-income countries.

"An estimated 11-20 million people get sick from typhoid and 128,000 to 161,000 people die of it every year. Pakistan and India are the most-affected countries in Asia," he said.

According to Dr Zuberi, the general secretary of the Pakistan Paediatric Association, protection and purification of drinking water supplies and improvement in basic sanitation and food hygiene are key measures to eliminating the disease, which spreads through contaminated food and water or through close contact with someone who's infected.

Speaking about XDR typhoid, he said the cases of this typhoid strain resistant to five classes of antibiotics were first reported in Hyderabad in 2016 and had affected 10,195 people till August 2019.

"Most of these cases were reported in Karachi (5,886) followed by Hyderabad (2,450). Other districts reported 859 cases," he said.

As many as 4,709 XDR typhoid cases were registered in Sindh during Aug 2019 alone, of which 2,999 cases were reported in Karachi, he added.

The provincial health department, he pointed out, would launch a Typhoid Conjugate Vaccine (TCV) campaign against XDR typhoid fever on Nov 16.

Dr Zahoor Ahmed Baloch, former project director of the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI), said the typhoid outbreak in Hyderabad and Karachi had prompted the need for the vaccination campaign in Sindh.

"It targets 30.1 million children of nine months to 15 years.

The target population includes 4.7 million children in Karachi."

Provincial EPI consultant Suneel Raja said that the vaccination for XDR typhoid fever had also been added to the EPI.

The typhoid conjugate vaccine was currently not available commercially, he added.

Hyderabad SCBA poll results

By Our Staff Correspondent

HYDERABAD: Syed Qalbe Hassan, an independent candidate supporting the Asma Jahangir group, won the election for the post of Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) Hyderabad president by securing 37 out of the total 53 votes in the ballot held here on Thursday.

His rival, Mohammad Shoaib Shaheen of the Professional group bagged 13 votes.

There were three polling booths within the single polling station set up in the library of the High Court Bar Association.

The other candidates declared elected are Khalil Ahmed Baloch (vice president Balochistan), Asrarullah Asad Khan (vice president Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Ghulam Murtaza Chaudhry (vice president Punjab) and Inayatullah Marvi (vice president Sindh).

Ahmed Shahzad Farooq Rana and Choudhry Mohammad Shoaib clinched the posts of secretary and additional secretary, respectively.

'Implementation of child protection laws remains major issue'

By Our Staff Correspondent

HYDERABAD: Implementation of child-protection laws remained a major issue, according to the annual flagship report *The State of Pakistan's Children 2018* launched recently by the Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (Sparc) at a local hotel.

Sparc's executive director Sajjad Ahmed Channa said the report covered seven chapters, including a new one 'voices of children' in order to see how a child sees the world and his/her problems. The report would have been incomplete without that chapter, he said, adding that the real issue was how to resolve children's problems.

Appreciating the fact that Sindh had produced some commendable legislation among all provinces, he said implementation obviously needed investment to ensure rights' protection.

He said that such investment on the development of a child was bound to pay off in future. He said children could not raise their voice for their rights like others. He pointed out that Child Rights Convention said that children were subject to their own rights and not the property of their parents alone.

Obituary

SHIKARPUR: Amanullah Soomro, an activist of a socialist movement and younger brother of *Dawn*'s Shikarpur district correspondent Rahmatullah Soomro, died of cardiac arrest on Thursday morning.

A number of civil society activists and media personnel, besides his relatives and friends, attended the funeral prayers which were held at Lakhi Gate in the afternoon.—Correspondent

9th BARSI

1943 - 2010

The Ninth Barsi of

Late S.N. ABBASI

shall be held on Saturday, the 2nd Nov. 2019. Quran Khawani will be held at 3:30 pm at Masjid & Imambargah Yasrab Phase-4, DHA, Karachi. All his friends, colleagues and well-wishers are requested to attend & offer prayers for the spiritual elevation of the departed soul.

Please recite Sura-e-Fatiha for the salvation and heavenly ascension of the departed soul.

MOURNERS:

All Members of the Abbasi Family,
Kot Diji, Khair Pur (Mir's) 0333-2150888

OBITUARY

It is with deep sorrow we announce the passing away of

Ms. Nafees Mahmood

beloved daughter of Late Mr. MAK Chaudhry (Former Interior Secretary-IG Police) and Begum Suraiya Mahmood (Inna Lillah e wa inna Ilaihe Rajeoon).

Her Qul will be held on Saturday 02 November between 4 and 5 pm at her residence 65 Q, Street 2, Phase 2, DHA Lahore.

Begum Suraiya Mahmood
Moazam and Noreen Mahmood
Farukh and Shahrukh Pracha
Mehr and Sherjeel Bedaar
Faisal and Maheen Yaqub
Adoring Grandchildren
Dr. Shahid Amjad Chaudhry
and all members of the family

SOYEM

Soyem of my mother
Mrs. Husan Ara Wajahat

W/O (late) Wajahat Hussain Siddqiui

Shall be held on
Saturday 2nd November 2019, between Asr and Maghrib
at House No. A-108/2, 25th Street,
off Khayaban-e-Sehr, DHA.

For both ladies and gentlemen.

Family

Nabila/Sohail, 0321-2201119
Roohi/Shahid, 0345-5099994
Sana/Umair, 0321-9240678
Sara/Omair

EXTENSION IN SUBMISSION DATE

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Information Technology Systems Development and Impiementation
Pakistan Revenue Automation Pvt. Ltd.

Reference Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) published on 06/10/2019 in national press as well as uploaded on PPRA and PRAL websites regarding Information Technology Systems Development and Implementation. As a result of preliminary meeting held on 25/10/2019, closing date for submission of proposals of EOI has been extended till 20/11/2019 on or before 1530 hours. Another Preliminary meeting will be held on 11/11/2019 at 1100 hours at PRAL Office, address mentioned below. All other terms and conditions of EOI will remain same.

Manager (P&I)
Pakistan Revenue Automation (Pvt.) Ltd
2nd Floor, Software Technology Park, Plot No.156, Sector I-9/3, Islamabad. Ph: **051-9259353**
Email: **vendor.support@pral.com.pk**
& follow us on twitter.com/pral04722328

KARACHI PORT TRUST

Gateway to Pakistan
A Great Heritage - A Vibrant Future

Services Required of CA Firm

Karachi Port Trust is desirous of hiring the services of a firm of Chartered Accountant having satisfactory ICAP - QCR rating and enlisted in the category "A" on SBP panel for undertaking special audit assignment of the IZHAR ABBASI HOSPITAL-KPT for the last five years.

Interested CA firms meeting the above requirements are requested to collect tender document along with TORs from Chief Auditor's Office during office hours 0900 to 1300 hours from Monday to Friday before submitting the proposals. The last date of submitting and opening of the tender is 19th November, 2019. The tender document along with TORs have also been uploaded on KPT & PPRA Websites.

Chief Auditor, Internal Audit Department
KPT Head Office Building, Karachi Port Trust
Eduljee Dinshaw Road, Karachi-74000. Ph: 021-99214544
Also available at: **www.kpt.gov.pk & www.ppra.org.pk**

WAPDA INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

WARSAK POWER STATION

Name of Procuring Agency: Chief Engineer (Hydel) North WAPDA Warsak.

Tender Number (for identification): CE/TO/SP/15(28)-269

Title of Procurement (Indicating Type & Quantity):
Super-scribed tenders under sealed covers for **Electrical Spares for Hoisting System of Spillway Gates and Electrical Insulating Oil for 132 KV Minimum Oil Circuit Breakers of Unit-1 & 6 of Warsak Power Station on FOB Basis.**

Time Period for Compliance of the Contract: 180 days.

Eligibility of Contractors/Suppliers:
1. Sales Tax Registered Firms.
2. Bonafide Manufacturers, or authorized suppliers.
3. Bids accompanied **2% earnest money.**

Contact (For Seeking Bidding Documents):
a. General Manager (Hydel) Operation WAPDA, 185-WAPDA House, Lahore.
b. Chief Engineer (Hydel) North WAPDA Warsak.
Contact No. 091-2388101, 091-2388100 Ext. 259

Tender Fee:
A complete set of Bidding Documents costing **Rs. 1,000/-** (Rupees One Thousand only) non-refundable) in shape of Pay Order/ Bank Draft in favour of:
- **Manager Finance (Hydel) WAPDA Lahore** payable in **Account No. 1383-09 HBL Gardez Square Branch Lahore.**
- **Resident Engineer WAPDA Warsak** payable in **Account No. 237048316** of **UBL Warsak Sub Branch.**

Last Date and Time of Obtaining Bidding Documents:
01.12.2019 up to **1700 Hrs.**

Closing Date, Time as well as Place of Receiving Bids:
12.12.2019 at **1130 Hrs.** at the office of **Chief Engineer (Hydel) North WAPDA Warsak.**

Date, Time & Location of Public Opening of Bids (on the date of their receipt):
12.12.2019 at **1130 Hrs.** at the office of **Chief Engineer (Hydel) North WAPDA Warsak.**

Note:
1. All rights are reserved as per PPRA Rules.
2. Tender received after closing time of the Tender opening date will not be entertained.
3. Tender Notices may be downloaded from WAPDA and PPRA's websites.

CHIEF ENGINEER (HYDEL)
NORTH WAPDA WARSAK

This notice is also available at PPRA Website: www.ppra.org.pk
PIDS/1242/19 | Website: www.wapda.gov.pk | PIDS/1182/19
DONATE FOR DIAMER BASHA AND MOHMAND DAMS | SAY NO TO DRUGS

Centre of Excellence in Art & Design, MUET, Jamshoro

LOST & FOUND

We, Centre of Excellence in Art & Design, MUET, Jamshoro are the legal and rightful owners of Corolla GLI 1598/MT year 2015, bearing registration No. GSC-399, engine No. 2ZR9610 and chassis No.NZE170R-4032318 color medium silver. The original Sale invoice No. 91650904 and sale Certificate No. 91650904001 of this vehicle issued in the name of Centre of Excellence in Art & Design, Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro by Indus Motor Company Ltd. has been lost on 16-04-2019 somewhere at Karachi. Finder may please return these documents to Customer Relations, Indus Motors Company Ltd., Plot # NWZ/I-9/1, Port Qasim Authority, Karachi. Telephone No. (Toll Free): 080011123.

"Say NO to Drugs"
YOUNAS RODEJO(MAJOR RTD)AND MOHMAND DAM(T)

CEAD, MUET, Jamshoro

CORRIGENDUM

NATIONAL AEROSPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK (NASTP), AVIATION CITY, PAKISTAN (ACP) AT KAMRA

PRE-QUALIFICATION OF BUILDING WORKS CONSTRUCTORS

Reference: Subject advertisement published dated **October 25, 2019** and PPRA bearing Reference No. TS40407(6).

1. Aviation City Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd. now invites applications from Building Works Constructors for Pre-qualification in **six categories i.e. Category-A to F.**
2. Revised Pre-qualification documents can be obtained from address below or downloaded from **www.ppra.org.pk** and are to be submitted by no later than **November 18, 2019 (1100 hrs).**

All other Terms and Conditions remain the same.

Project Director / CEO
NASTP (Aviation City Pakistan)
Contact Office: Focus Reception Adjacent to 7-0 PAF Guardroom
PAF Complex, Sector E-9 Islamabad.
Tel: 051-9504107, Cell No. 0300-9591991

Pakistan National Shipping Corporation

(Statutory Corporation, Established under the ordinance, XX of 1979)

Invitation to Bids

Tally Services on PNSC Managed/ Chartered and Agency Vessels at Karachi Port and Port Muhammad Bin Qasim for a period of two years (2019-2021)

Tender No: PRCD/TALLY/2019-2021/11

1. Pakistan National Shipping Corporation is a National Flag Carrier under the administrative control of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Government of Pakistan, invites bids in sealed envelopes for "Tally Services on PNSC's Managed/Chartered/ Agency Vessels at Karachi Port and Port Muhammad Bin Qasim" for a period of two years (2019-2021), as per Clause-36(a) of PPRA Rules, on PNSC standard bidding documents from the interested firms, registered with Income Tax and Sales Tax Departments (FBR/SRB) and must have valid National Tax Number (NTN), also on Active Taxpayers List (ATL) of FBR. The Bidders/Firms shall have experience at least 5 years in similar services.
2. Bidding documents containing details terms & conditions etc., are available at address hereunder from Monday to Friday during office hours **09:30 am to 04:30 pm** till **November 18, 2019** may be obtained free of cost on any working day of can be downloaded from PNSC website **www.pnsc.com.pk**
3. The Bids on prescribed forms duly filled-in, signed and stamped in single package accompanied with Earnest Money/Bid Security of 5% of their bid value (Refundable) in Financial sealed bid through Pay Order/Bank Draft in favour of "Pakistan National Shipping Corporation" would be dropped in Tender Box placed at Conference Room, 1st Floor, PNSC Building, marked by **"Tally Services on PNSC's Managed/ Chartered/ Agency Vessels at Karachi Port and Port Muhammad Bin Qasim"** latest by **11:00 am** on **November 19, 2019**. Bids will be opened on the same day at **11:30 am** in the presence of Bidders, who wish to attend. Advertisement is also available on PPRA website **www.ppra.org.pk**
4. PNSC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids as per PPRA, 2004.

Ali Imam Gadri
General Manager (Procurement)
1st Floor, PNSC Building, M.T. Khan Road, Karachi
Tel: (92-21) 99204007, Email: pcmcadmin@pnsc.com.pk
Website: www.pnsc.com.pk

Sukkur IBA University

Airport Road, Sukkur.

TENDER NOTICE

Tender # PROC/206

Sealed bids are invited from manufacturer/authorized distributers/authorized dealers on **"Single stage two envelope basis"** having vast experience in respective fields for following items.

S.#	ITEMS
1	Silicone Membrane Vacuum Press Machine
2	Air Conditioners
3	Carpet & Chair Cleaning Machine (Wet+Dry)
4	Furniture Fixture
5	RFID Card Printer & Accessories
6	Uniforms for Supporting Staff
7	NAS (Network attached storage)

Details of specifications and quantity are mentioned in the tender documents, which can be obtained on provision of demand draft/pay order for each item **Rs. 500/=** (Non-refundable) in favor of Sukkur IBA, from the office of the **Manager Procurement Sukkur IBA University** on any working day from **01st November 2019** to **18th November 2019.** The Last date for the submission of bids is **19th November, 2019 up to 1300 Hours.** The technical bids will be opened on the same day at **1330 Hours** in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives (who may choose to be present). The financial proposals of only technically eligible firms will be accepted/Opened. Bid security i.e. **2%** of the tender amount (Refundable) in the shape of bank draft/pay order in the name of Sukkur IBA University must be attached with the bid documents. The Procuring Agency may reject any bid subject to relevant provisions of SPP Rules 2010 and may cancel the bidding process at any time prior to acceptance of bid or proposal as per Rule-25(1) of said rules and as per PPRA rules.

Please send your queries: hart@iba-suk.edu.pk

REGISTRAR PR(IH) 11315
SUKKUR IBA UNIVERSITY
Airport Road, Sukkur **Ph:** 071-5644143, 5644134

SAY NO TO CORRUPTION

Tender No. 6(436)

GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
Ministry of Communications
NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR SUPERVISION AND ASSISTING THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL IN MAINTAINING AND CONTINUALLY IMPROVING THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ISO 9001:2015) AT NHA

1. The National Highway Authority (NHA) intends to engage a Consultant/ Engineering Organization/ Firm to carry out *"Consultancy Services for Supervision and Assisting the Newly Established Quality Assurance Cell in Maintaining and Continually Improving the Quality Management System (ISO 9001:2015) at NHA"*.
2. Proposals are invited from reputable Consultants/ Engineering Organizations/ Firms: (i) Registered with Income Tax and Sales Tax Departments and who are on Active Tax Payers list of the Federal Board of Revenue, and (ii) Having PEC/ Relevant council registration in relevant field with relevant experience as mentioned in the RFP.
3. Interested firms may download the Request for Proposal (RFP) document from NHA website i.e. (**www.nha.gov.pk**) free of cost.
4. Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **8th November, 2019** at **1100 hours** in the NHA Auditorium (HQ-Islamabad).
5. The Proposals complete in all respects, in accordance with the instructions provided in the RFP document, in sealed envelopes should reach on or before **19th November, 2019** at **1130 hours** in NHA Auditorium, 27-Mauve Area, G-9/1, Islamabad and be clearly marked *"Consultancy Services for Supervision and Assisting the Newly Established Quality Assurance Cell in Maintaining and Continually Improving the Quality Management System (ISO 9001:2015) at NHA"*.
6. The Technical Proposals shall be opened on the same day at **1200 hours**, whereas the Financial Proposals of the Technically Qualified Firms shall be opened after finalization of Technical Evaluation. Other details are provided in the RFP.
7. All the applicable Federal, Provincial & Local taxes must be considered while preparing the financial proposals. All these taxes except GST are required to be built- in in the quoted rates and not be mentioned separately.
8. The Firms/ Consultants providing unsubstantiated and/or incorrect information are liable to legal action and/or disqualification.
9. This advertisement is also available on NHA & PPRA websites.
10. The Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the proposals as per PPRA Rules.

GENERAL MANAGER (P&CA)
28-Mauve Area, G-9/1, P.O. Box No.1205, Islamabad
Phone: 051-9032727, Fax: 051-9260419
Email: gmpca.nha@gmail.com, Website: www.nha.gov.pk

PID(I)1251/19

FACULTY REQUIRED

For Cantt Public PG College for Women, Malir Cantt.

STATIONS/ CANTONMENTS	Post	Minimum Qualifications & Experience
Malir	Female Section Heads (for Senior & Junior Wing)	• Masters. • Minimum 10 years experience in teaching as well as Administration.
	Female Education Lecturer (for College Wing)	• Masters/M.Phil in relevant subject. • Minimum 03 years experience in reputed college.
	Female Home Economics Lecturer (for College Wing)	• Masters/M.Phil in relevant subject. • Minimum 03 years experience in reputed college.
	Female Psychology Lecturer (for College Wing)	• Masters/M.Phil in relevant subject. • Minimum 03 years experience in reputed college.
	Female Statistics Lecturer (for College Wing)	• Masters/M.Phil in relevant subject. • Minimum 03 years experience in reputed college.
	Female Computer Lecturer (for College Wing)	• B.S/Masters/M.Phil in relevant subject. • Minimum 03 years experience in reputed college.
	Female Urdu Lecturer (for College Wing)	• Masters/M.Phil in relevant subject. • Minimum 03 years experience in reputed college.
	Female PTI (for School / College)	• B.S/Masters in relevant subject.
	Female Computer Lab incharge (for School / College)	• B.S/Masters in relevant subject.
	Female English Teacher (for Senior Wing)	• B.S/Masters in relevant subject. • Minimum 02 years experience in a reputed institution.
	Female Pak Studies Teacher (for Senior Wing)	• B.S/Masters in relevant subject. • Minimum 02 years experience in a reputed institution.
	Female Mathematics Teacher (for Senior Wing)	• Masters in relevant subject. • Minimum 02 years experience in a reputed institution.
	Female Mathematics / Physics Teacher (for Senior / Junior Wing)	• B.S/Masters in relevant subject. • Minimum 02 years experience in a reputed institution.
	Female Art Teacher (for Junior Wing)	• Diploma in fine Arts / Bachelors in Fine Arts. • Minimum 02 years experience in a reputed institution.
	Female Computer Teacher (for Junior Wing)	• B.S/Masters in relevant subject. • Minimum 02 years experience in a reputed institution.
	Female Montessori Directress	• Diploma in Montessori. • Minimum 02 years experience in a reputed institution.

Note:

- Desirous candidates should send information as per format given below (compiled on MS Word only) along with educational testimonials and experience certificates to office of the Cantonment Board Malir, Bostan Line, Malir Cantt Karachi by **18-11-2019.**
- Two postal envelops on which address of the candidate is written should be submitted along with the application.
- Candidates should mention clearly on application the post for which job is needed.
- These posts will be non-transferable. The recruitment shall be on contract basis and shall remain as such.
- The salary package will be attractive and comparable with market pattern.
- No TA / DA shall be given for the interview.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interviews.

Name: _____ **D/W/O:** _____ **For the Post:** _____ **Station:** _____

Telephone (Two Numbers): _____ **Address:** _____

Qualification	Subjects	College / University	Private / Regular	Mks/Out of	Div/Grade	Experience
Matric						
F.A/F.Sc.						
B.A / BSc / B.B.A/B-Com						
M.A / MSc						
MS / M.Phil						
Others						

PID(K)1535/19

Cantonment Executive officer
Malir Cantonment
Ph: 021-99247077

Sui Southern Gas Company Limited

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

HIRING OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR WAREHOUSE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (WIP)

Tender Enquiry No. SSGC / SC / EOI / 10230
Last Date of Submission of EOI is 02-12-2019 at 1100 hrs

Background: Sui Southern Gas Company is Pakistan's leading integrated gas company. The company is engaged in the business of Transmission, Distribution and Sale of Natural Gas, besides construction of high pressure transmission and low pressure distribution systems. It is operating in its franchise area of the provinces of Sindh and Baluchistan and listed in all three stock exchanges in Pakistan. The Company has annual turnover of over US$ 1 billion. In order to provide un-interrupted gas supply to consumers, over 4150 Industrial, 23500 Commercial and 2 Thrillion Domestic customers. SSGC works round the clock in cities and remote areas of its franchised area.

To support above massive Network, Stores Department is playing a vital role in Supply Chain Management of SSGC. The Department supports in Business operations of Transmission and Distribution Gas networks, by maintaining Company extensive variety of material and ensures its transportation at the user's designated/required location(s).

Brief Description of Project: SSGC, is aiming to strengthen and further improve efficiency of its existing Stores (warehouses) with the guidance of industry leading consultant(s) keeping in view of the modern trends to fulfill its current and future requirement against available resources. The core objective behind this idea is to maximize the utility of space, equipment, efficiency of operations and optimum utilization of available resources for the material to be stored/handled at Distribution, Transmission and Meter Management Stores located in Sindh and Baluchistan Regions. It has been observed that our Warehouses require modern designing and induction of latest technologies as per industry best practices to provide maximum support to its users during material handling/transactions.

Scope of Work: The selected consultant firm shall be required to propose Warehouse Improvement Plan (WIP) in the form of comprehensive report alongwith maps/drawings (2D & 3D), layout plan etc. for specified stores.

Timelines: Proposals are accordingly invited from Local consultants fully capable to perform relevant jobs by submitting their profiles in Sealed Envelope marked for "Assessment for Hiring of Consultancy Services for Warehouse Improvement Plan" on or before 02-12-2019 at 1100 Hours in the Tender Room, Ground Floor, CRO Building, Head Office Complex, Sir Shah Suleman Road, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, in the Office. The profiles submitted after the bid submission time will not be entertained.

Qualification & Eligibility Requirement: The consultant will be shortlisted in accordance with the procedures set out in short listing criteria i.e.
1. Key Professional Staff Qualification and Competence (At least Bachelor's Degree in relevant field) alongwith educational documents, certificates etc.
2. Valid Registration as PEC Consulting Engineer.
3. Experience of the Consultant relevant the assignment (at least 05 years experience required).
4. Adequacy of Proposed Methodology & phase-wise Work Plan to above mentioned Scope of Work etc.
5. Financial Strength (Minimum Turnover at least Rs. 10 Million per year for last 03 years) with bank statement (attested), account maintenance certificate/turnover certificate.

Documentary evidence as per above criteria is mandatorily required to be submitted alongwith EOI.

EOI Opening Time: The EOI will be opened publicly 30 minutes after its submission time and the name of firms will be announced in the presence of their participants who wish to attend. SSGC reserves the right to reject all proposals and annul the EOI process.

Shortlisting: Only short listed consultants will be offered to submit detailed RFP. The method of procurement will be Quality and Cost Based Selection as per Procurement of Consultancy Regulation 2010.

Note:
1. EOI will be opened publicly 30 minutes after EOI submission time, EOI submitted after deadline of EOI submission will not be entertained. In case the EOI opening date falls on holiday, EOI will be opened on the next working day at the same time, in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives who may intend to attend.
2. SSGC reserves the right to reject all EOI and cancel the process before acceptance of EOI.

For further details, please visit SSGC website www.ssgc.com.pk. The above information is also available on PPRA website www.ppra.org.pk and contact: Dy. Chief Manager Tendering Ph# 92 - 21 - 99021223, Manager (LP) Ph# 92 - 21 - 99021279, Assistant Manager (SC) Ph# 92 - 21 - 99021238 or Assistant Engineer (FP) Ph# 92 - 21 - 99013074, mmtd@ssgc.com.pk.

PID(K)1533/19 www.ssgc.com.pk

SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK **A3072**

8	4	3				2		
2	9			8	3	6		
				6		5		
3		7		9				
				2			1	
			4		9	3	2	
		2		5		1		9
9			1			4	8	5

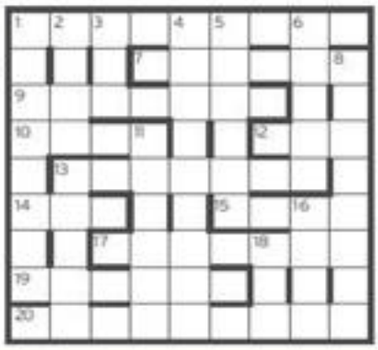
TRICKY **B3072**

	6	2	5		1			7
			6			1		
	4							3
3				4			8	6
5				7				1
			9					
	2		4	8		7		
4		1				9		
		9						

To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerous strategies to help you solve sudoku. For hints and information visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Created by Peter Wintsanis (assumed to be) © 2005 syndication.com

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Flying machine (9)
7 Stiff and awkward (6)
9 Normal (7)
10 Spoken, verbal (4)
12 Writing tool (3)
13 Unprofessional (7)
14 Generation (3)
15 Opposite of hard (4)
17 State emphatically (7)
19 Playground item (6)
20 Courteous adult males (9)

DOWN

1 Trapeze artists (8)
2 Water jug (4)
3 Torn cloth (3)
4 Licit opal (anag.) (9)
5 Masses of shaped bread (6)
6 At no time (5)
8 Cardinal number (8)
11 Most recent (6)
13 Concur (5)
16 Gratis (4)
18 Give weapons to (3)

CHESS

WHITE TO PLAY

HINT: Behold the mighty pawn!

Solution:
1. Rd7! Kxd7
2. Be6! followed by cd=Q

TARGET

T	L	P
A	L	Y
A	R	I

HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here?
In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word.
No plurals or verb forms ending in "s".

TODAY'S TARGET

Good 22;
Very good 33;
Excellent 44 (or more).

Solution tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

DETONATED aeon anods ante atone atoned attend attended deaden dean denote denoted dent dentate dented detonate DETONATED donate donated done eaten ended neat need netted node notate notated note noted oaten teen tend tended tenet tent tented tone toned

THE METRO FUNNIES

The GAMBOLS
PONDER THE OPTIMISM
JUST THE RIGHT MODEL AND ONLY TWO HUNDRED POUNDS!
I CAN THINK OF LOTS OF THINGS WE COULD HAVE SPENT TWO HUNDRED POUNDS ON!

BIG NATE | BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

THERE IS JENNY! I AM GOING TO TELL TO HER ABOUT HOW I HAD CRUSH ON DEE DEE!
DON'T DO IT, ARTUR.
YES, NATE! MY RELATIONSHIP WITH JENNY IS BASED ON TRUST!
YOU WHAT?!
ALSO, RELATIONSHIP IS BASED ON JENNY TELLING SUPER LOUD.
I LOVE THE COMMUNICATION

THE WIZARD OF ID | BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART

...WE HAVE A GIANT BACKED ON THE LEGAL KINGDOM EQUIPMENT
AND THAT'S ALL FOR THE TRAFFIC AND WEATHER...
NOW, FOR TONIGHT'S POLITICAL NEWS, BROUGHT TO YOU BY ALCOHOL. DRINK ME, YOU'RE GONNA NEED IT

BABY BLUES

I'M GOING TO START LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME JOB TODAY.
THAT'S GREAT!
YEAH, BUT HOW DO I DO IT?
NETWORKING. USE ALL OF YOUR CONNECTIONS.
ANYBODY HAVE ANY LEADS FOR ME?

HELP

EMERGENCIES

Police Help	15, 8921002-03, 9921004
CPLC	1102, 35862222
Fire Brigade	16, 9921007, 9921008
Bomb Disposal	9921076
KE Complaints	118
Telephone complaints	1218
Railway Inquiry	9921000-06
PIA Inquiry	9921264, 9921259
Flight Inquiry	115

HOSPITALS

Abbasi Shaheed	36360465-58
Civil Hospital	9921740, 9210065
Jinnah Hospital	9921300-9920120/1
MCH	9920127-8
Aga Khan Hospital	34863001
Indus Hospital	35112708
Taliha	36301841, 111tele4me
Ziauddin Hospital	35862327-9, 35842327-9
Kiran Cancer Hospital	35261501-04
Liaquat National	111-456-456, 34569615
Memon Medical	34851167 – 74
A.O. Clinic	36365354, 36365355-64
Bargat Hospital	36316356, 36316358
Holy Family Hospital	36259454, 36259697
Peoe Hospital	111157474
South City Hospital	35216672
Kidney Centre Institute	35901000-10
Korean-e-Hayat	021-111284111
Qamar Memorial	021-36312311-15

AMBULANCE

Edhi	115, 35310000, 35314577
Chhipa	1020
Aman	1021
St John	35350000, 35350005
Red Crescent	35356027, 35356028

BLOOD BANK

Fatmid	35370254, 35370978
Husaini	35239403-08
Pilak (Civil)	99215740, 99215999

WORD GAME

By Kathleen Sova

▼ TODAY'S WORD
DRACONIAN

(DRACONIAN: dray-KO-nee-an: Harsh; severe.)

Average mark 26 words
Time limit: 45 minutes

Can you find 40 or more words in DRACONIAN?

The list will be published tomorrow.

SOLUTIONS

▼ YESTERDAY'S WORD — PAROLE

pale	real
paler	reap
pare	rote
parol	rope
peal	opal
pear	opera
pearl	oral
plea	leap
polar	lope
pole	loper
poler	lone
pore	earl
aloe	
aper	
rale	
rape	

RULES OF THE GAME:

1. Words must be four or more letters.
2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s," such as "bats" or "dries," are not allowed.
3. Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used. For example, if "bake" is used, "baked" or "bakes" are not allowed, but "bake" and "baking" are admissible.
4. Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed.

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

ACROSS

1 Indicate
8 Vanish
9 Earl
10 Tie
11 Creepy
13 Represent
15 Unable
17 Ace
18 Pair
19 Movies
20 Betrayed

DOWN

1 Ice creams
2 Nearer
3 Dare
4 Carpenter
5 Andy
6 Title
7 Sheltered
12 Online
14 Peeve
15 Unit
16 Baby

WEATHER

Sunset & Sunrise

	Hyderabad	Islamabad	Karachi	Lahore	Peshawar	Quetta
Sunset	05:46pm	05:18pm	05:52pm	05:15pm	05:23pm	05:50pm
Sunrise	06:33am	06:25am	06:29am	06:18am	06:32am	06:43am

Karachi

Yesterday: Partly Cloudy. Low 19 °C. Winds light and variable.
Today: Showers clear. High 35 °C. Winds NNW at 10 to 15 km/h. Humidity 37%.
Tonight: Shower clear . High 24 °C. Winds NNW at 10 to 15 km/h.
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy. Low 16 °C. Winds W at 10 to 15 km/h.

Three Day Forecast

	Today				Tomorrow				Day After		
	Min	Max	Outlook	Humidity%	Min	Max	Outlook		Min	Max	Outlook
Faisalabad	15	33	AM Showers	83	15	34	Mostly Cloudy		14	33	Sunny
Hyderabad	22	36	Mostly Sunny	37	22	33	Sunny		21	33	Sunny
Islamabad	16	33	Cloudy	84	16	33	Cloudy		14	34	Cloudy
Lahore	19	30	Partly cloudy	51	19	28	Cloudy		17	27	Sunny
Multan	19	35	Partly cloudy	46	19	37	AM clouds/PM		17	28	Sunny
Peshawar	16	34	AM showers	48	16	33	Mostly Cloudy		16	36	Sunny
Quetta	11	31	PM Th-storms	51	9	20	Partly Cloudy		8	21	Sunny

Temperature estimates are internationally sourced and may differ from local estimates.

HOROSCOPE

By Jacqueline Bigar

ARIES | March 21-April 19

**** A take-charge attitude goes far in resolving a problem. The unexpected often upsets others. You seem to be able to deal with a sudden or surprise event. You will be more mellow than many people around you. Tonight: Celebrate the weekend.

TAURUS | April 20-May 20

***** Reach out for another person. Know what it is you want and desire. You might be floored by his or her reaction. One-on-one relating helps you get to the basics surrounding a personal matter. Tonight: Out enjoying munchies for two.

GEMINI | May 21-June 20

***** Be direct when dealing with a loved one. He or she nearly always is more stern or serious than you. At times, this person's attitude might annoy you. Reflect on how you feel about him or her when interacting -- not how you feel about his or her attitude. Tonight: Lighten up the moment.

CANCER | June 21-July 22

**** Others come toward you. A surprise could be on the backburner involving friends or a specific goal. Be more direct in your dealings; express your caring more openly. Tonight: Surround yourself with friends.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 22

*** Plunge into a project and decide to complete it as best you can. A boss or someone you look up to could behave in a flakey manner or simply might not be responsive. Your efforts count to a loved one. Tonight: Play it low-key.

VIRGO | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

**** You are on the way to gaining more insight and knowledge -- if you do not overreact to a sudden change. The status quo changes, and you need to be able to adapt to it. A matter around your domestic life makes you smile. Tonight: Romp the night away.

LIBRA | Sept. 23-Oct. 22

*** Stay centered, knowing what is possible and what needs to happen. You can become over-reactive if you are overwhelmed by what is happening around you. Your domestic life becomes the focus of attention. Tonight: Be smart about spending.

SCORPIO | Oct. 23-Nov. 21

***** You speak your mind and others react. You could be pleasantly surprised by an associate or a loved one who cannot help but demonstrate his or her caring. This person adds excitement to your life. Tonight: Say yes.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 22-Dec. 21

*** Be aware of the financial ramifications of continuing as you have. You need to slow down and have a long overdue conversation. You know what another person wants and why. Explain carefully where you are coming from. Tonight: Fun does not need to cost.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

***** Your unusually high energy helps you complete a lot of errands and much of your to-do list. A child or loved one could surprise you with his or her ideas and willingness to follow through. Tonight: Let it all hang out; greet the weekend in style.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

***** You have lots of energy and resources. You might be more secretive than you are normally. You are in the process of collecting information and doing some research. Soon, you will be making an important decision. Tonight: Whatever feels right.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

***** Your emotional nature emphasizes friendship right now, as well as what you really want in your heart. Though you might be hesitant to share this desire with most people, you could make it a reality with a stroke of luck. Tonight: A key friendship plays a major role.

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5 Dynamic, 4 Positive, 3 Average, 2 So-so, 1 Difficult

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bidding Quiz

By Steve Becker

You can win, but you can't lose

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A Q 6 4 3
♥ K Q 8 4
♦ A 9
♣ 7 2

WEST
♠ 7 5
♥ A 2
♦ J 8 6 4
♣ A Q J 10 6

EAST
♠ K 10 9 8
♥ 7
♦ Q 10 3 2
♣ 9 8 5 3

SOUTH
♠ J 2
♥ J 10 9 6 5 3
♦ K 7 5
♣ K 4

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1♠	Dble	2♣	2♥
3♣	4♥		

Opening lead — ace of hearts.

In bridge, the participants see only 26 cards when the play starts, and not the 52 cards seen in the diagram. Naturally, seeing only 26 cards, they might not play their cards as perfectly as if they saw all four hands. Being human, they might err.

The declarer, and the defenders likewise, frequently trade upon this deficiency. They sometimes make plays they would not make if all 52 cards were in plain view, and they do this because they might induce a mistake by the opponents.

Consider this deal where South stole the contract by making an unnatural play. West led the ace and another trump. Declarer, after sizing up his chances, cashed the ace of spades and returned a low spade toward his hand.

East assumed from this line of play that declarer had a singleton spade and therefore played low instead of going up with the king. South won with the jack and eventually established dummy's fifth spade to finish with 11 tricks in all.

Now let's say declarer had won the heart in his hand and led the jack of spades for a finesse, as most players would do. In that case, East would have won the king and returned a club to set the contract.

The beauty of South's play is that it gives him a chance to succeed regardless of who has the king of spades. If West has it, the contract is assured because dummy's queen provides a vital club discard. And if East has the king, then it is just as well not to try the losing finesse. In fact, it is much better to cash the ace and lead toward the jack because it gives East a chance to go wrong.

It is true that South might cost himself 30 points if it turns out that West has the king of spades, but who wouldn't pay a 30-point premium to ensure making a game?

Tomorrow: A wild night at the club.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Quick — A3071

1	5	2	6	4	9	8	7	3
7	8	6	3	2	1	9	5	4
4	7	8	5	1	3	6	2	9
5	3	9	7	6	8	1	4	2
2	4	1	9	3	5	7	6	8
6	9	7	1	8	2	3	9	5
8	1	5	4	7	6	2	3	9
9	6	3	2	5	4	8	1	7
3	2	4	8	9	7	5	9	6

Tricky — B3071

1	6	2	5	3	1	4	9	7
3	9	7	6	1	4	8	5	2
5	8	4	2	7	9	6	1	3
9	1	3	9	5	7	2	6	8
7	2	6	8	4	3	9	7	1
8	4	5	1	9	2	7	3	6
6	5	1	4	2	3	7	8	9
2	3	9	7	8	6	1	4	5
4	7	8	3	6	5	2	1	9

DAWN

ISLAMABAD Friday, November 1, 2019

METRO North

ISLAMABAD

Sunset	05:19pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow)	06:24am

NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum	16°C
Maximum	28°C
Outlook	Mostly Sunny

Shadab shines as Pakistan down CA XI in T20 warm-up

Pg.22 SPORT

PML-N Secretary General Ahsan Iqbal addresses JUI-F workers at the public meeting near Peshawar Mor on Thursday. — Photo by Tanveer Shahzad

(Another picture on Page 17)

Twin cities quiet as residents brace for Azadi March's arrival

Many people opted to stay home and markets in the garrison city saw few customers despite reopening after two-day strike

By Munawer Azeem & Aamir Yasin

ISLAMABAD Expressway appears deserted after the Islamabad administration blocked the road with a barrier — White Star

ISLAMABAD: Even though Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) leaders and Azadi March participants remained in Gujar Khan for most of Thursday, life in the capital was paralysed by the preparations police have made for the march.

With many of the city's main arteries and intersections sealed by shipping containers, barricades and barbed wire, many residents were forced to stay at home.

The police have closed off all possible routes leading to the Red Zone, despite the JUI-F's assurance that the march would not head towards that area.

The Red Zone houses various sensitive installations, including Parliament House, Prime Minister House, the Presidency, Supreme Court and the Diplomatic Enclave.

The Azadi March has been given a venue near Peshawar Mor and adjacent to Kashmir Highway but the police and administration were concerned that the Azadi March may turn towards the Red Zone instead.

As a result, residents had difficulty moving around the city. Passenger vehicles such as vans and pick-up trucks appeared to have disappeared from the roads, and many people were seen trying to hitch rides on motorcycles and other vehicles.

Many people simply chose to stay at home instead, giving the city a near deserted look. Few people could be seen shopping in markets.

Because many roads were sealed, there was some traffic congestion on the routes people took on the way home from work. The police have also blocked off the metro bus route by plugging the underpass in the Red Zone with containers. The bus service was suspended and will likely remain so on Friday (today).

Police officials told *Dawn* that the metro bus route was sealed because the march participants could have used it to access the Red Zone. They said the police were blocking all the possible routes and roads that lead to the Red Zone.

Capital administration officials said JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman and other leaders had expressed reservations that the city would be sealed even though they had reached an agreement with the government regarding the march.

As a result, a delegation from the administration that included the deputy commissioners additional and general as well as police officers met them and led a JUI-F delegation to the capital via the route chosen for them.

According to organisers of the march, JUI-F, Awami National Party, Pakhtunkhwa

Continued on Page 17

Drap admits drug prices were increased in violation of policy

By Ikram Junaidi

ISLAMABAD: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (Drap) admitted on Thursday that medicine prices were increased in violation of its own policy.

The revelation came during a meeting of a National Assembly's subcommittee on national health services (NHS) at Parliament House.

Drap officials gave the meeting a briefing on the registration of medicines, how to obtain licences for new medicines and the structure and financing of the authority. They also said that the laboratory testing and post-marketing surveillance of medicines are Drap's responsibility.

However, MNA Ramesh Lal from the PPP told the officials he had been hearing this information for a long time.

"I want to know what has happened in the last year," he said, adding: "As far as I am aware, during the last year the former minister and NHS secretary became the reason of irrecoverable loss to the health sector."

"The situation has [worsened to the extent] that the poor cannot even imagine buying medicines," he said.

One of the Drap officials then admitted that the prices of some medicines were increased by more than the limit permitted by drug pricing policy. But, he said, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on NHS Dr Zafar Mirza has taken up the issue and had the prices decreased.

"Although it is true that the prices of medicines were increased, it is also a fact that the prices were decreased as well," he said.

This April, then NHS minister Aamer Mehmood Kiani was removed and Dr Mirza appointed special assistant on health. There were rumours that Mr Kiani was removed because of the unprecedented increase in drug prices, but on one at the government level has confirmed this.

In May, Dr Mirza announced that the increase in medicine prices would not exceed 75pc. He said that although prices were increased by up to 400pc, Prime Minister Imran Khan directed the day he took charge – April 23 – that prices be decreased within 72 hours.

He said this led to deliberations and it was agreed that the maximum permitted increase would be 75pc.

Dr Mirza had said that the prices of 889 medicines were considered; the prices of 454 were increased and the prices of 395 were decreased. The rest remained the same.

Detention of loaded containers a violation of law: IHC

Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday directed the federal government not to obstruct lawful business of traders for maintaining public order during the Azadi march.

— Detailed story on Page 16

PRAYER

Fajr	05.05
Zuhar	11.56
Asr	03.40
Maghreb	05.18
Isha	06.43

Starting time in Islamabad

REFLECTIONS

"AN ADVICE: DO NOT LOSE HOPE IN GOD'S MERCY AT THE SAME TIME DO NOT TAKE FOR GRANTED IMMUNITY FROM HIS PUNISHMENT."

— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)

7BAH427

Private schools to remain closed today

ISLAMABAD: Private schools extended their holiday to Friday because of the partial road blockades and uncertain situation in the wake of Azadi March.

However, Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) said all public sector schools and colleges would remain open. Meanwhile, attendance remained low in government schools, particularly in urban areas.

Quaid-i-Azam University, National University of Modern Languages (Numl), Air University, Bahria University, Comsats University and the National University of Science and Technology have already announced closure on Friday.

In Rawalpindi, the district administration asked all private and government educational institutions to open on Friday.

However, Metro Bus Service between Rawalpindi and Islamabad will remain closed. — Staff Reporter

An artist displays his work on a roadside in F-6. — White Star

Detention of loaded containers a violation of law: IHC

Plea disposed of after chief justice was assured that traders would be compensated

By Malik Asad

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday directed the federal government not to obstruct lawful business of traders for maintaining public order during the Azadi march.

Chief Justice Athar Minallah issued the direction after taking up a petition filed by a private goods transport company against detaining of its containers to block roads.

He observed: "The state can only control and regulate trade for the purpose and object of ensuring safety, peace, health and good moral of public."

The court added: "There is no regularion nor any restriction imposed by law that citizens who are engaged in lawful business can be obstructed to carry on their business or empowers the authorities to detain their containers in which commercial goods are being transported for the purpose of maintaining public order."

Justice Minallah disposed of the petition with the observation that "in case the transportation of goods in containers by the petitioner company or any other trader have been obstructed or interfered with, they would be at liberty to approach the competent authorities for seeking compensation."

The court also asked the federal government to nominate an authorised officer to receive complaints from traders who may have been affected on account of their fundamental right guaranteed under Article 18 of the Constitution having been violated.

Deputy Commissioner Islamabad Hamza Shafqaat informed the court in an undertaking that "no container loaded with commercial goods has been detained or obstructed within Islamabad Capital Territory."

He said the federal government had allocated Rs60 million for maintaining public order during the Azadi march and assured the court that the traders would be compensated for detaining the containers. Justice Minallah appreciated the deputy commissioner and remarked that provincial governments should follow the same as well.

The chief justice observed that detention of containers loaded with commercial goods without the consent of the owners was a violation of Article 18 of the Constitution.

The court noted that "freedom of trade, business or profession is a right guaranteed under Article 18 of the Constitution. The constitutional provision provides that subject to such qualifications, if any, as may be prescribed by law, every citizens shall have the right to enter upon any lawful profession or occupation, and to conduct any lawful trade or business."

The court asked the federal government to "ensure that there is no obstruction or interference with transportation of loaded containers otherwise than as provided under law."

The court said public authorities acting on behalf of the state would ensure that the fundamental rights of the public were safeguarded.

Azadi March causes concern among wedding hall managers, hosts

By Kalbe Ali

ISLAMABAD: Uncertainty ahead of the Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) Azadi March has also affected weddings in the capital, causing problems for both wedding halls and hosts.

Wedding hall managers have been facing questions from clients about the expected law and order situation and the condition of roads in the coming days.

Since many wedding halls and marquees are located on the Islamabad Expressway, guests and hosts are also concerned about their safety.

The managers of such establishments, meanwhile, are fending off questions from clients.

"There have been several changes to programmes. Many people have asked to cancel their bookings, and some have opted to move the date forward," Islamabad Caterers Association President Salman Ashraf.

He added that everyone who has booked for a large gathering is seeking advice on how to reduce the number of guests.

"Our average calculation is that around 25 to 30pc of guests come from Rawalpindi," he said, adding: "The problem arises because of the road blocks."

Wedding halls charge clients according to the guests booked, even if the actual number of guests on the day is lower.

"If there are fewer guests we pack the food and give it to them," Saz Hassan said. "If the number of guests increases significantly, we have a kitchen and begin making preparations."

Many managers of wedding marquees and halls on the Expressway said this political situation has emerged at the start of their business season, since there are few weddings in Muharram and Safar.

"Weddings are one of the key events in life in our society and people book up to six months in advance. There is a whole process involved; people look at various marquees, negotiate charges, some even determine the dates based on good omens in religious terms," Empire Marquee General Manager Inamul Haq said.

It is not an easy decision to change the dates, he said, but many people are taking the risk by holding their events today (Friday) and tomorrow (Saturday).

"If anything happens, the ceremony will be attended by those in the bride and grooms' close family circles," he said.

However, the decision between the local administration and the JUI-F that the march will be held in H-9 has given wedding hall managers on the Expressway that the Faizabad interchange will stay open.

PIA, IIA officials suspended

RAWALPINDI: The Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) station manager, assistant station manager and deputy shift manager at Islamabad International Airport (IIA) and the airport manager and two duty terminal managers were suspended and departmental inquiries were launched against them on Thursday.

A group photo of key speakers of seminar on Breast Cancer Awareness with the First Lady of Pakistan Madam Samina Arif Alvi organized by Shifa International Hospital Islamabad.

The suspensions came after orders from Prime Minister Imran Khan.

According to sources, the Airport Security Force (ASF) assistant sub-inspector suspected of manhandling passengers was also removed and an inquiry against him was completed.

Sources said two separate inquiries have been conducted and reports sent to ASF Headquarters for further directives. The inquiry report contained CCTV images and interviews of security staff and other agencies' officials.

"The ASF official may face punishment as he is being tried under the Army Act 1952, because his actions cannot be justified," a security official said, adding that the issue was not reported to higher authorities at the time because it was settled between passengers and security staff.

PIA Public Relations General Manager Abdullah Hafeez told *Dawn* that following the prime minister's orders, IIA Station Manager Pervez Nasser and the assistant station manager and deputy shift in-charge were suspended and an inquiry was launched into the incident.

Airport Manager Tahir Sikandar and deputy terminal managers Zaheer and Malik Akram have also been suspended and an inquiry has been launched. — Mohammad Asghar

HEC, NCSW to collaborate on library, museum

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: The Higher Education Commission (HEC) and the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) have agreed to collaborate on a public library and women's museum in the capital.

According to a statement issued by the HEC on Thursday, NCSW Chairperson Khawar Mumtaz and HEC Chairman Dr Tariq Banuri signed an agreement to this effect a ceremony at the HEC Secretariat on Wednesday.

According to the document of understanding, both parties seek to establish a library, museum and archive to support education, research and training on the role and contribution of women in Pakistan's progress.

The document aims to create a framework of cooperation and describe the roles and responsibilities of each party in the establishment and development of libraries, museums and archives in various cities.

The statement said a project steering committee co-chaired by the NCSW chairperson and HEC chairman will be constituted to recommend necessary policy decisions. It will also support universities seeking to undertake complementary activities.

The HEC and NCSW will collaborate on the establishment of a library in Islamabad.

The statement said the NCSW will be responsible for maintaining records and documentation, mapping available resources, analysing archival material and disseminating information to stakeholders.

Call for Expression of Interest

Project: Community Driven Local Development Program, Local Government, Elections and Rural Development Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (GoKP)

Advertisement for Hiring of Individual Consultants

Aiming community empowerment, lives and livelihood of key stakeholders, collaborating with GoKP in Local Development

Deputy Commissioner, District Battagram invites applications from eligible individual consultants from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa preferably from Hazara Division for the following contractual positions under Community Driven Local Development Program of Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Duration of the assignment is one year from the date of contract signing extendable for another period of one year on mutual consent of the parties and subject to clearance/recommendation from performance review committee specially constituted for the purpose.

Sr#	Name & Number of Positions	Qualification, experience, age limit & monthly fee / package
1.	Program Officer Social Mobilization (01)	• At least Master Degree (Sixteen Years) of formal education in Social Sciences, Public Administration, Project Management or any other relevant discipline from HEC recognized University. • A minimum of five years' experience in public or development sector organization or both would be basic eligibility. • Age limit shall be up to maximum 50 years till the date of publication of this call for EOI. • The individual consultant would be paid monthly fee @ Rs. 80,000/PKR (lump sum).
2.	Social Mobilizers (Male 01)	i. Master Degree (Sixteen Years) of formal education in Social Sciences or relevant from HEC recognized University with four years' experience in public or development sector organizations or both would be basic eligibility. or ii. At least Bachelor Degree (Fourteen Years of formal education (Major Subjects of Social Sciences) or relevant with six years' experience in relevant field. iii. Age limit shall be up to maximum 45 years till the date of publication of this call for EOI. iv. The individual consultant would be paid monthly fee @ Rs. 50,000/PKR (lump sum).
3.	Social Mobilizers (Female 02)	i. Master Degree (Sixteen Years) of formal education in Social Sciences from HEC recognized University with four years' experience in public or development sector organizations or both would be basic eligibility. or ii. At least Bachelor Degree (Fourteen Years) of formal education (Major Subjects of Social Sciences) or relevant with six years' experience in relevant field. iii. Age limit shall be up to maximum 45 years till the date of publication of this call for EOI. iv. The individual consultant would be paid monthly fee @ Rs. 50,000/PKR (lump sum).

Terms and Conditions:

To check the capability of consultants, screening and evaluation test for these positions will be conducted under the supervision of National Testing Service (NTS). For the job application form, test deposit slip along with other necessary details Please visit the NTS website (www.nts.org.pk) Job application without original fee deposit slip will not be entertained. To see TORs of the assignment, selection criteria for the positions you can see following official website www.cddkp.gk & KPPRA website www.kppra.gov.pk

Please refer to following details for more information:

i. The selection process for the positions shall be governed under KPPRA Procurement Rules 2014.
ii. Based on screening and evaluation test results, Interview call letter will be issued to shortlisted candidates only. No TA/DA will be admissible for the interview.
iii. Incomplete application or the ones received after the closing date will not be entertained.
iv. If the closing date fixed for the receipt of applications forms falls on any official holiday, the next working day will be considered as the closing date.
v. Assignment specific experience is mandatory, the candidates having less or no required experience will not be contracted for interview.
vi. The competent authority reserves the right to change any condition, not to fill or cancel the requirement process.
vii. Errors/omissions related to this advertisement are subject to the rectification.

Interested applicants may like to send their interest on prescribed job application form accompanied by detailed curriculum vitae (CV), attested copies of all certificates and documents (including academic degrees, professional diplomas, experience certificates etc.), one recent passport size photograph, copy of computerized identity card must reach the office of NTS (NTS Headquarters, Plot # 96, Street # 4, H-8/1, Islamabad), within 15 days of the publication of this advertisement.

Note:
- NTS will not issue Roll No Slips through courier/postal service to any candidate.
- Eligible candidates shall take print out of their Electronic Roll No Slips (having picture of candidate) through NTS website for appearing in the test.

Deputy Commissioner Battagram

Focal Person Name & Designation: Mr. Altaf Hussain (Addl: Deputy Commissioner Battagram)

Ph: 0997-310117 / Facebook: www.facebook.com/kpcdld Website: www.ssuu/kpcdld

"SAY NO TO DRUGS"

InfoKPGovt @InfoKPGovt www.infokhyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk Send KP to 8333

INF/P/2458 (DB-10)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Hiring of Third-Party Recruitment Firm (Testing Services)

Elementary & Secondary Education Department (E&SED) of the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (GoKP) is seeking a reputable and experienced Third-Party Recruitment Firm for the provision of testing services under a blanket contract for a period of three years. The firm will assist E&SED in hiring of its staff (teaching and non-teaching) through competitive process all over the KP. The firm is expected to undertake the whole cycle of recruitment including inviting applications from candidates, their registration, screening as per eligibility criteria, design and conduct of tests and selection of final candidates based on merit.

For the above purpose, the Elementary & Secondary Education Department invites eligible firms to submit their proposals for providing the above Services using Single Stage Two Envelopes procedure. Interested firms should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the task.

General Requirement & Eligibility Criteria

a) The firm shall have a legal status recognized by law.
b) Must be registered with tax authorities and be an active taxpayer.
c) Minimum 05 years' experience to conduct tests i.e teaching, non-teaching and management staff testing at a large scale for Public and Private Sector entities particularly education sector.
d) Demonstrated capacity to take paper-based as well as computer-based tests for general/ specific teaching, non-teaching & education sector management positions.
e) Demonstrated strong management system of test development, administration and having vast position specific question bank. Also, the firm should have a secure printing press.
f) The firm must not be insolvent, bankrupt, blacklisted or debarred by any public or private sector entity or any other organization or procurement regulatory authority in any province or Islamabad capital territory.

A firm will be selected in accordance with the "Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)" method set out in KPPRA rules 2014.

Interested firms may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.

Further information related to this procurement can be obtained at the address below during office hours i.e. 09:00 to 17:00 Monday to Friday. The detailed RFP can be downloaded from https://www.kpesc.gov.pk and https://www.kppra.gov.pk

RFP completed in all respects must reach the address below by November 20, 2019 before 12:00 noon which will be opened on the same day at 12:30 p.m in the presence of the representatives of the firms.

Each and every page of the Original RFP Document must be duly signed and stamped by the authorized person of the Bidding firm. The procurement entity reserves the right to reject any or all RFPs received under KPPRA rules 2014 with valid reasons.

Director Elementary & Secondary Education

Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

GT Road, Peshawar, Pakistan

Tel: +92-91-9225344

Fax: +92-91-9225345

Email: ddu.esekp@gmail.com

"SAY NO TO DRUGS"

InfoKPGovt @InfoKPGovt www.infokhyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk Send KP to 8333

INF/P/2458 (DB-10)

Diplomatic Shuttle Service contractor defaulting on Rs180m

Contractor was supposed to pay Rs23m after every three months, say officials

By Kashif Abbasi

ISLAMABAD: The Diplomatic Shuttle Service for visa seekers is once again facing a controversy as without depositing a major chunk of the amount the contractor is operating the buses.Visa seekers, who have to travel in coasters from a terminal near Diplomatic Enclave and back, are charged Rs500 per trip. The enclave houses foreign missions and embassies.

Sources in Metropolitan Corporation Islamabad (MCI) said the Directorate of Municipal Administration (DMA) in Feb 2017 had awarded the contract for three years against Rs93 million per year.

According to the contract, the contractor was supposed to pay Rs23 million after every three months.

However, the sources said the contractor was defaulting on Rs180 million but running the facility even though only a few months were left in completion of the contract. The sources said the service could not be run without depositing the amount.

They said after defaulting on the first installment, the DMA should have taken over the project.

The sources said in February this year a "final notice" was issued to the contractor for clearing the Rs93m outstanding at that time within seven days.

The notice read: "It has been decided by the competent authority to serve you final notice to pay the amount within seven days positively, failing which the case will be referred to CDA special Magistrate/Collector for recovery under CDA Land Revenue Act 1969."

MCI officials said there were also reports that the contractor had been charging Rs1,000 per passenger from the visa seekers against Rs500 as per agreement.Meanwhile, the sources said Chief Officer MCI Humayun Akhtar has sought record of the case and the matter would be taken up again soon.

When contacted, Director DMA Zafar Iqbal said the contractor was defaulting on Rs180 million and had been asked to pay the dues.

He said he also got an FIR registered against the contractor with Kohsar police. He said a meeting was held on Wednesday in which the contractor was asked to clear the dues.

About overcharging, he said: "Whenever we received reports of overcharging, we took it up with the contractor."

Another official of the DMA said the contractor had been pleading that when the contract was awarded to him the embassy of China was operating inside the Diplomatic Enclave but later it was shifted to Third Avenue that resulted into a fall in his revenue.

He said the contractor had also filed a case in a local court against the DMA.

It may be recalled that some officials of the Capital Development Authority (CDA) faced a case in NAB for their dubious role in the award of a previous contract.

After conducting an inquiry, NAB arrested some of the CDA officials. Before formation of the MCI, the shuttle service was supervised by the civic agency.

Twin cities quiet as residents brace for Azadi March's arrival

Continued from Page 15

Milli Awami Party and PML-N workers and supporters have been arriving at the venue from all over the country all day.

They said the venue consists of two grounds, one that measures around 200 metres and the other 300 metres.

They are establishing some 2,000 toilets in different parts of the venue, and plastic sheets are being used to make cabins and for drainage.

The march consists of more than 30,000 participants, according to police officers watching their movement, travelling in 1,342 vehicles. A container and a crane are also in the march with Mr Rehman and 15 other JUI-F leaders travelling in the container.

Rawalpindi

Although businesses finally reopened on Thursday after a two-day traders' strike in Rawalpindi, many people chose to stay home because of the presence of the Azadi March some 45 kilometres away in Gujar Khan as well as confusion over the route the procession would take on its way to Islamabad.

It was unclear whether the marchers would pass through downtown Rawalpindi on the way to their public meeting in Islamabad.

The district administration had closed down all educational institutions and suspended the metro bus service between the twin cities as well.

Saddar, Raja Bazaar and other commercial areas were unusually quiet even though traders opened up their stores and vendors were selling fruits, sunglasses, caps, second-hand clothing and other items on carts.

But in other parts of the city, such as the entrance to Raja Bazaar from City Saddar Road, life continued more or less as normal. People could be seen walking through the markets, visiting the District Headquarters Hospital and shopping at the fruit and vegetable market.

Uncertainty was palpable, however, on the 2km patch of Murree Road from Faizabad to Shamsabad and Soan River Bridge to the Fauji Foundation Hospital.

Police and shipping containers could be seen over the bridge on Soan River when moving towards Jhelum Road past the district courts.

There were also barriers in place towards Islamabad through Shamsabad in front of the public park, and law enforcement officials and containers could be seen deployed between Rawalpindi and Islamabad.

The PML-N and PPP did not establish camps on Murree Road on Thursday morning to welcome JUI-F participants, who spent the night 45km away from Rawalpindi, because of confusion over whether they would pass through the city.

Political workers began hanging banners and set up camps in the afternoon. The PPP camp is at Liaquat Bagh and PML-N's is at Shamsabad Public Park. Local leaders visited the camps in the evening.

THE capital administration has sealed the metro bus underpass on Jinnah Avenue with containers to stop the Azadi March participants from reaching sensitive D-Chowk in Islamabad's Red Zone. — Photo by Mohammad Asim

Health experts confused about dengue transmission season

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Experts are not certain if the season of dengue disease has ended in the federal capital.

Moreover, Minister for Railways Sheikh Rashid Ahmed has on a number of occasions warned Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam (JUI) chief Fazlur Rehman to beware of dengue.

"We have done fumigation in the area where participants of Azadi March may stay due to which hopefully the disease would not spread to the residents," National Health Services (NHS) Secretary Dr Allah Bakash Malik told *Dawn*.

Dengue season has almost ended in the federal capital but there is a general perception that participants of the Azadi March coming from Karachi can become a reason for the spread of the disease once again.

Majority of the mosquitoes don't carry dengue virus but if once they bite a patient suffering with dengue they start transmitting the virus to other persons. As the disease appears in a person in a week after a mosquito bite, the participants coming from Karachi, where dengue is still at a peak, can become a reason for the spread of the disease.

A health expert requesting not to be quoted said dengue mosquito becomes inactive whenever temperature drops below 25 degrees Celsius.

"The mosquito dies if the temperature drops below 16 degrees Celsius. Though it is true that a number of participants of Azadi March can have dengue in the next few days, the local residents should not get panicked. Technically, dengue transmission has ended in the federal capital," he said.

"Unless we observe a volt-urn in the weather and it once again becomes warmer, dengue mosquito cannot survive. Moreover, because of the sudden drop in the temperature, mosquitoes have taken refuge in houses. If the participants of the Azadi March remain in the open air they don't have to fear from dengue," he said.

However, some experts feared that dengue can be transmitted to the residents of the federal capital from participants of Azadi March.

Media Coordinator for Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims) Dr Waseem Khawaja said currently only five per cent mosquitoes were infected with dengue.

"However, they can become infected if they bite those suffering from dengue. Later, these mosquitoes can spread dengue among the residents. Not only participants of Azadi March are vulnerable to dengue, the virus can also spread in nearby areas such as G-9, H-9 and H-8."

He said though the hospital had done arrangements to admit dengue patients, protesters need to understand that every patient does not need hospitalisation.

"They will be examined and only those will be admitted who required proper care. Moreover, I suggest that departments concerned and organisers of the march should ensure cleanliness in the area, availability of clean drinking water and proper sanitation system," Dr Khawaja said.

NHS Secretary Dr Malik said not only dengue transmission season had almost ended fumigation had also been done in the area. But some persons can be reported with dengue as the disease appears a week after the mosquito bite.

"However, as temperature is dropping the participants of the march, especially aged persons, are vulnerable to upper respiratory tract infections. They need to take precautionary measures and keep themselves warm," he said.

WB to continue to support education sector

By Our Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD: World Bank (WB) President David Malpass on Thursday said the bank would continue supporting education sector in Pakistan.

A delegation of World Bank headed by President David Malpass was briefed by Pakistani education ministers about the initiatives being taken by them and challenges they face.

The delegation visited Ministry of Federal Education, where they were briefed by Federal Education Minister and provincial education ministers and others.

The WB president is in Pakistan to finalise enhanced financial support for institutional reforms and growth agenda.

The focus of the meeting was learning poverty, as participants of the meeting discussed how to ensure that all Pakistani children read by the age of 10.

Federal Minister of Education Shafqat Mahmood, Planning Minister Makhdoom Khusro Bakhtiar, the BEC chairman, provincial finance and education ministers represented Pakistani side.

Both sides discussed in detail that how Pakistan can improve learning poverty.

The learning poverty means being unable to read and understand a short, age appropriate text by age 10.

According to Word Bank's recent report, 75pc of children in Pakistan are not proficient in reading at late primary age, while 27 pc of primary school children are not enrolled in schools. The report, highlighting below minimum proficiency stated that large scale learning assessment of students in Pakistan indicate that 55pc do not achieve minimum proficiency level, at the end of primary school.

During the meeting, Pakistani education and finance ministers and Chairman BEC briefed the WB President about the outgoing projects and overall initiatives and challenges being faced by education sector.

Sources said that Pakistani participants of the meeting told Mr David Malpass that despite financial constraints efforts are being made to make progress in education sector of the country.

According to a statement, issued by education ministry, it was agreed in the meeting that helping children achieve their full learning potential was critical and requires effective use of technical and financial resources.

The Federal Education Minister Shafqat Mahmood highlighted that quality education was the single key factor required for building human capital.

Mr Mahmood highlighted the role of his ministry in building a national consensus on key reform areas, especially uniformity in curriculum standards and its implementation.

The education minister said that plans were under way to reorganise the ministry to set up a policy and research unit to analyse critical information on students learning outcomes, school data and education financing from across Pakistan to ensure better policy and decision making.

He appreciated World Bank support for education reforms and affirmed that he was looking forward to an active engagement with WB at the federal level to accelerate human development. The federal education minister also expressed his gratitude to the federal and provincial ministers for joining this important discussion to end learning poverty across the country.

Federal Minister for Planning Makhdoom Khusro Bakhtiar and provincial Ministers and secretaries also discussed with World Bank's delegation, the programmes they had launched and the challenges as well to progress the learning outcomes in their respective domains.

At the end of the meeting, Mr. David Malpass said that WB continue its support and keen to work with Pakistan.

The World Bank launched its ambitious "learning target" this year in the annual meetings held in Oct 2019.

The World Bank President emphasised the need for coordination in political, financial and management approaches to ensure that countries bring students back to school and improve learning outcomes to enhance productivity and economic growth.

RASM-E-QUL

Major (R) Dr Farrukh Hussain Kazmi, Son of Safdar Hussain Kazmi (Federal Secretary) (R) has passed away on Wednesday, Oct 30, 2019. His Qul will be held today on 1st Nov, 2019, 11.00AM at: House 28, Street 37, F-7/1 Islamabad.

Please Join us in prayers

(038-P)

OBITUARY

It is with deep sorrow we announce the passing away of

Ms. Nafees Mahmood

beloved daughter of Late Mr. MAK Chaudhry (Former Interior Secretary-IG Police) and Begum Suraiya Mahmood (*Inna Lillah e wa inna Ilaihe Rajeoon*).

Her Qul will be held on Saturday 02 November between 4 and 5 pm at her residence 65 Q, Street 2, Phase 2, DHA Lahore.

Begum Suraiya Mahmood
Moazam and Noreen Mahmood
Farukh and Shahrukh Pracha
Mehr and Sherjeel Bedaar
Faisal and Maheen Yaqub
Adoring Grandchildren
Dr. Shahid Amjad Chaudhry
and all members of the family

SOYEM

Soyem of my mother
Mrs. Husan Ara Wajahat

W/O (late) Wajahat Hussain Siddqiui

Shall be held on
Saturday 2nd November 2019, between Asr and Maghrib
at House No. A-108/2, 25th Street,
off Khayaban-e-Sehr, DHA.

For both ladies and gentlemen.

Family

Nabila/Sohail, 0321-2201119
Roohi/Shahid, 0345-5099994
Sana/Umair, 0321-9240678
Sara/Omair

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COURT NOTICE

ISLAMABAD

SUPREME Court of Pakistan Islamabad (Appellate Jurisdiction) Civil Petition No.3139 of 2017. Ch Noor Muhammad (deceased), through LRs & others (Petitioners) Versus Muhammad Khalil Ahmad Khan (deceased) through his LRs & other Respondents. To 1. Mst Razia Begum (deceased) widow of Ghulam Sarwar Malik (deceased) resident of Dhoke Mula Khan (deceased) and real sister of defendant No.1 (deceased) through legal heirs: a. Javed Malik Son b. Shaheen Malik (deceased) through legal heirs:- i. Javed Malik Brother ii. Tariq Malik brother iii Mst. Jasmeena Sister iv.Mst Parveen Sister v. Mst Rabina Sister vi. Mst Rukhsana Sister c. Tariq Malik son d. Mst Jasmeena Daughter e. Mst Parveen Daughter f. Mst Rubina Daughter g. Mst Rukhsana Daughter of Mst Razia Begum all R/o 273, Warsi Hassan Rawalpindi Cantt. 2. Col (R) M.M.Mushtaq Khan (deceased) through his legal heirs:- i.Mst Anwar Mustafa (widow) ii. Mst Farhat Fawad Daughter iii. Nazni Nawaid Daughter iv.Sana Mustafa Daughter v. Izzat Mustafa Daughter vi. Shaista Mustafa Daughter vii Muhammad Ahtar Brother viii Col.(R) Sher Afzal Khan brother ix. Mst Rozina Begum Sister 3. Mst Razia Begum daughter of (late) Sub Musa Khan 4. Mst Gulzar Begum daughter of (late) Sub Musa Khan (deceased) through legal heirs:- a.Mst Samina daughter b.Mst Parveen Akhter widow of Qamar Zaman 5.Raisa Qamar Daughter 7.Shazia Qamar Daughter 8.Uzma Qamar Daughter 9.Lubna Qamar Daughter All R/o Village Khanna Dak, Tehsil & District Islamabad. Take notice that the above cited Civil Petition has been fixed before this Court against the Judgment dated 19.10.2017 passed by Islamabad High Court, Islamabad in R.S.A. No.10/2014. Take Further Notice that notice sent to you have been received back un-served with the report that respondent Nos.1 (ii) (a,c to f and h) have shifted abroad (Germany (USA) whereas respondent No.9 is not residing at given address. Take Further Notice that the above noted case is fixed for hearing before the Court on 05.12.2019 at 8.00 a.m in soon thereafter as may be convenient to the Court house at Islamabad. You are, therefore, required to appear before the Court on 05.12.2019 either in person or through Advocate on Record duly appointed by the Court according to the Supreme Court Rules, 1980, failing which this petition will be heard ex-parte against you. Islamabad the 26th October, 2019. (Fawad Ahmed) Assistant Registrar (Civil-II) For Reg ashar. (376404141495)

MARDAN

IN The Court of Qurratul Ain Chand Khan, Judge Family Court I, Mardan. Suit No. 949/FC of E-12/2019. Next date 16/11/2019. Dissolution of Marriage / Recovery of Dower etc. Mst Rabia D/o Manaf Khan, Presently address House No.140, Sector K, Sheikh Maltoon Town, Tehsil & District Mardan etc versus Mehraban Hussain, S/o Nishtar Khan Shah S/o Lal Hussain, R/o Kato Wali, Tehsil & District Jhelum, presently England. Whereas in the above mentioned case it has been proved to the satisfaction of the court, that the above mentioned Defendant cannot be served in the ordinary way. It is, therefore, proclaimed under Order 5 Rule 20 CPC that if the said defendant will / shall not appear personally or through a duly authorized agent or pleader in court at 8.30 on 16/11/2019 the proceedings will be taken ex-parte. No arguments of any nature shall be entertained thereafter. Given under my hand, Seal of this court. (376401401496)

CHARSADDA

IN the Court of Mohtarma Umm-ul-Khair Fatima, Civil Judge-II Sahiba, Charsadda. Mehmood Ameer Khan etc vs Mst. Razia Begum etc. Suit No. 173/1. Institution 01/10/2018. To, 11. Sarina Khan w/o Mr Alam Khan, R/o House No. 1204, Street No. 167, New Edmonton, Alberta TAM2K5 Canada. Whereas in the above mentioned case it has been proved to the satisfaction of the court that the above mentioned defendant cannot be served in the ordinary way, it is, therefore, proclaimed under Order 5, Rule 20 CPC that if the said defendant will / shall not appear personally or through a duly authorized agent or pleader in court at 8am on 18/11/2019, the proceedings will be taken ex-parte. No arguments of any nature shall be entertained thereafter. Given under my hand and seal of this Court. (376504120899)

LOST & FOUND

ISLAMABAD

I have lost my office Registration Card No. PK-F-17-A-2117365, issued by Pakistan Nursing Council during travelling somewhere at Bahara Kahu, Islamabad. If found, please contact Changez, 0348-5009881, (270140125471)

I, Nadia Farooq, Daughter of Farooq Ahmed Malik, resident of House 420, Street 4, Sector G-9/3, Islamabad announce that my SSC / HSSC certificate, bearing Roll No. 577352 of the year 2008 issued by Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education Islamabad has been lost during transit etc. Whoever finds it shall send it to the above said address or call on 0333-1942789. (271141286405)

MARRIAGE BUREAU

ISLAMABAD

LADY Doctor 22, needs only UK, proposal / Daughter 25, Madam Kiran, UK Daughter 25, BDS, Jat, **MRS. KHAWAJA:** 0336-0516618, 051-5856437 (276843309603)

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GENERATOR

DIESEL GENERATORS from stock 50-1000 KVA with installation and maintenance services available. S.M. Jaffer & Co., Karachi. Phone: 32850780, Fax: 32851162. (106525139)

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

KARACHI

IT is to inform the general public that Mr. Zahid Hussain Awan Son of Nabi Bux Awan having the following property in DHA Karachi has expired on 16 December 2018. a. House No. 541, Lane No. 14, Phase-VII, Defence Officers Housing Authority, Karachi admeasuring 1000 square yards (approx). His following legal heirs have applied for transfer of the above plot in their names. i. Mrs. Yasmeen Zahid, Widow. 2. Mrs. Eruh Waqar Awan, Daughter. 3. Mr. Rahim Bux Awan, Brother. 4. Ms. Mushtaq Begum, Sister. 5. Ms. Shahida Perveen Awan, Sister. 6. Ms. Nighat Sultana Awan, Sister. Anyone having any claim/ objection should notify Director Transfer & Record DHA Karachi in writing within Fifteen days after which no claim / objection shall be entertained by this authority. (110225967432)

We Al-Rahim Textile Industries have agreed to sell, transfer, convey and assign to one of our clients an immovable property viz a Plot of Land bearing No. A/188, measuring 36.5 acre, Survey Sheet No. 35-P/1-35-L/13, together with construction standing thereon together with amenities of electric, water and conservancy lines, sewerage lines and other communication lines and connections attached thereto situated at NTE Area, Nooriabad free from all encumbrances, liens, charges, disputes, defect of title, litigations, mortgages, claims, and hypenda and with vacant possession. Any individual person, company, organization, financial institution, bank, authority, Government / Semi Government department having any objection and/or claim against the said property or said sale may notify its claim / objection supported by documentary evidence by Registered A.D. Post and by Courier Service to the Secretary, Sindh Industrial Trading Estate Limited (SITE), Habib Bank Chowrangi, Manghopir Road, Karachi, as well as to the undersigned within seven days, failing which, claim and/or objection if any, shall be deemed to have been waived and our client will complete the sale in all respect. **OSMAN ISSAHAI MEMON & COMPANY ADVOCATES** 4-Hussain al Bank of Pakistan Bldg, near Dawood Hall, M.A.Jinnah Road Karachi. (110255977)

OUR client has agreed to Purchase ground Floor Shop of 3400 square feet at Elite Towers, Plot C-17 Pedestal @ Area Block-10 Karachi from Mr. Saleem Muhammad Gagar CNIC 42201-6432901-3 and Mr. Sohail Mukati CNIC 42201-1881580-7 of Karachi. Any person, bank, authority having any claim, right, lien or any objection whatsoever should notify to us and to Sub Registrar Office of Related area along with evidence within seven days of this notice failing which the sale transaction transfer / mutation of this property shall be completed in favour of our client. Imran estate 33/3 Delhi Co-operative Housing Society Karachi. (111225640067)

OUR client has contracted to Purchase Flat No. 3, 2nd Floor, 1673 square feet (Approx) Plot No. 4-E, Bader Commercial Street No. 9-A, Phase-V-Ext, DHA, Karachi, from Faheem Raza S/o Mr. Raza Mohammad Shaikh, CNIC No. 42000-8656003-9, through his legal and lawful attorney Mr. Muhammad Zia Uddin S/o Mr. Riaz ul Haq, CNIC No. 42201-0880213-7, resident of Karachi, through Mr. Muhammad Ahmed S/o Mr. Muhammad Yousuf, CNIC No. 42301-0674560-7 free from all dues, claims, etc. Any person / bank / authority having any claim / objection should notify to us and Sub Registrar-I, Clifton Town Karachi, within 07 days. Offer wise transaction will be completed in favour of our client. M/s. Hadiq Associates, Faisal Khan Cell # 0331-9227599. (109625772)03

OUR client has contracted to Purchase Plot No. 1001 Commercial Avenue Phase-IV measuring 500 yards DHA Karachi from Muhammad Saleem S/o Abdul Wahid CNIC 42201-0946282-7 R/o Karachi any person / bank / authority having any claim / objection should notify us and Administrator DHA Karachi within 7 days of this publication after that no claim will be entertained and transaction will be completed. **BILLA ENTERPRISES** 0331-2536177, 0300-2522105 (109525899)49

OUR client has contracted to Purchase Plot No. 141-C, Al-Murtaza Commercial Lane-2 Measuring 200 yards Phase-VIII, DHA, Karachi from (i) Mr. Umair Ashraf S/o Ashraf holding CNIC No. 42201-3845247-5 (ii) Ms. Ashraf S/o H.A. Sattar (Late) holding CNIC No. 42201-2537602-3 both R/o Karachi free from all liens, disputes, claims etc. Any person(s) having any claim or any objection should notify us & Administrator DHA Karachi within (7) Seven days from the date hereof failing which any claim shall be deemed to have been waived & the transaction shall be completed in favour of our client. Iqbal Law Associates Advocates & Legal Consultants Office No. 4, Shahnaz Terrace Nishtar Road Garden East, Karachi. (109625705)

DAWN

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NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER REGULATORY AUTHORITY (NEPRA)

PROPOSALS FOR PREQUALIFICATION

NEPRA Tender No. 06/2019

NEPRA, an autonomous body established through an Act of Parliament known as 'Regulation of Generation, Transmission and Distribution of Electric Power Act, 1997 (XL of 1997); invites applications from reputed Testing Agencies having experience of conducting the screening test(s) for the recruitment of human resource.

The firms/agencies fulfilling the following minimum criteria may submit bids:-

(i) Registered with tax Authorities;
(ii) Active Tax Payer as per FBR's list;
(iii) Possess minimum experience of Four years;
(iv) Registered with SECP;
(v) Having office at Islamabad/near Islamabad.

2. Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding process will be adopted. Prequalification documents, containing detailed terms and conditions, evaluation criteria, bid security etc. are available at the office of Sr. Assistant Director (Admin./HR), NEPRA Tower, Ataturk Avenue (East), G-5/1, Islamabad at the cost of Rs. 100/- as per Rule16(2) of Public Procurement Rules, 2004.
3. The proposals, prepared in accordance with the instructions provided in the prequalification documents, must reach at the office of Director General (Admin. & HR), NEPRA Tower, Ataturk Avenue (East), G-5/1, Islamabad on or before 19/11/2019 at 1400 hrs. Proposals will be opened on the same day at 1430hrs. This advertisement is also available on NEPRA & PPRA websites.

(Anwar Malik)
Director General (Admin& HR)
NEPRA Tower, Ataturk Avenue (East)
G-5/1, Islamabad (Ph: 051-2013200)
Fax: 051-9210215, Email: info@nepra.org.pk

PRO(22)319

GOVERNMENT OF KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA FOOD SAFETY & HALAAL FOOD AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR ACQUIRING SERVICES OF TESTING AGENCY

1. The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Food Safety & Halaal Food Authority (KP-FS&HFA,) invites proposals from Testing Service Providers registeered with Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority (KPRA) and Government of Pakistan Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) for Income Tax. The interested testing agency must be on active tax payer list of KPPRA and FBR.
2. Complete set of Request for Proposal (RFP) Document including Scope of work, detailed Terms of Reference (TORs), Evaluation Criteria, Instructions to firms etc. can be acquired free of cost and can be downloaded from the Procuring Agency's website **www.kpfsa.gov.pk** and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (KPPRA) **www.kpprа.gov.pk** from date of publishing in the newspaper till closing date & time. The documents can also be acquired by sending an email to **krahim@kpfsa.gov.pk** or by visiting the office of the undersigned.
3. The proposal prepared in accordance with the instructions in the Request for Proposal (RFP), must reach to the undersigned through courier or in person. The closing date & time for submission of proposals is **20th November 2019** by **11:00 am**, which will be opened on the same day on **20th November 2019** at **02:00 PM** in the presence of bidders' or their representatives who choose to attend in **Conference Room of KP-Food Safety & Halaal Food Authority (KP-FS&HFA), located at Ground Floor, New C&W building, Khyber Road, Police Lines, Peshawar.**
4. All the interested firms are required to submit bid security in the shape of CDR in favour of Director General KP-Food Safety & Halal Food Authority amounting to Rs.250,000/- an affidavit in this regard shall be submitted along with Technical Proposal.
5. In case of any query, Procurement Department may be contacted on **Telephone No. (091-9212959)** Email: **krahim@kpfsa.gov.pk** during office hours (Monday to Friday excluding Public Holidays).

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (PROCUREMENT)
KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA FOOD SAFETY & HALAAL FOOD AUTHORITY NEW C&W BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, KHYBER ROAD, PESHAWAR

ISSUE-01

ISSB-GI

Pay your property tax and water bills promptly, Help us serve you better

Capital Development Authority

Maintenance Division-I

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are hereby invited on percentage basis from the approved/ enlisted contractors with PEC for the year 2019-20 against the following works:-

S NO.	NAME OF WORK	NIT COST	EARNEST MONEY	DATE & TIME OF CLOSING BOX
1.	Repair/ maint of H No. 21-H St. 11, 23-H St. 12 F-6/3 and 3-G (10-G) St. 48 F-6/4	Rs. 1,871,295/-	Rs. 56126/-	18-11-2019 At 11:30 AM
2.	Repair/ maint of H No. 25/5-H, 6/6-E St. 10 & 9/4-E St. 51 and 7-G St. 47 F-6/4	Rs. 1,559,732/-	Rs. 46792/-	18-11-2019 At 11:30 AM
3.	P/L of heat /cool leatment of H No. 76-I St. 1 and repair/ Maint of H No. 23-I St. 1 & 107-H St. 12 F-6/3	Rs. 1,406,784/-	Rs. 42209/-	18-11-2019 At 11:30 AM
4.	Repair/ maint of H No. 21-H St.1 F-6/3	Rs. 579,827/-	Rs. 17965/-	21-11-2019 At 11:30 AM
5.	Repair/ maint of H No. 27-H St. 12 F-6/3	Rs. 575,179/-	Rs. 17255/-	21-11-2019 At 11:30 AM
6.	Repair/ maint of H No. 30-G St. 47 F-6/4	Rs. 480,834/-	Rs. 14665/-	21-11-2019 At 11:30 AM
7.	Repair/ Maint of H No. 7/2-F St. 55 and 21/6-F St. 57-A & 39-H St. 1 F-6/3	Rs. 911,454/-	Rs. 27344/-	25-11-2019 At 11:30 AM
8.	Repair/ maint of H No. 22-H St. 12 F-6/3	Rs. 479,795/-	Rs. 14394/-	25-11-2019 At 11:30 AM

1. Tender/ bid is required from the approved contractors & enlistment with PEC for the year 2019-20 on percentage basis.
2. Rule 33(1) the procuring agency may reject all bids or proposals at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or Proposal. The procuring agency shall upon request communicate to any supplier or contractor who submitted bid or proposal, the grounds for its rejection of all bids or proposals, but is not required to justify those grounds.
3. Rule 35 procuring regencies shall announce the results of bid evaluation in the form of report giving justification for acceptance or rejection of bids at least ten days prior to the award of procurement contract.
4. Tenders can be purchased on cash payment of Rs. 1000/- at S No. (1 to 5,7) & Rs. 500/- at S No. (6 &8) non-refundable/ non transferable from the office of Deputy Director Maintenance Division-I, Room No. 154 CDA Office Old Nawal Headquarter G-6, Islamabad on any working days upto 12:00 'O' clock before the tender opening date.
5. All applications should be submitted for the tender documents on 14.11.2019 upto 12:00 Noon.
6. The tender documents will be obtained from the office at undersigned upto 15.11.2019, 20.11.2019 & 22.11.2019.
7. Tenders will be received by Dy. Director Maintenance-I, upto 11:00 AM in his office in Room No. 154 Old Nawal Headquarter G-6, Islamabad as per date & time mentioned against each work and (S No. 3 to 8) will be opened by Deputy Director Maintenance-I, Room No. 154, Old Nawal Headquarter G-6 and S. No. (1 to 2) will be opened by Director Maintenance, Room No. 152, Old Nawal Headquarter G-6, Islamabad, at 12:00 Noon on the same day.
8. Earnest Money, in shape of Call Deposit in favour of Dy. Director Maintenance Division-I, from Local Banks, **indicating name of firm** must be accompanied with the application. No application without Call Deposit will be entertained. Cash/ Cheque will not be accepted.
9. The bidders are required to provide additional documents as per clause (16) of the CDA Form W-6, while submitting of the tender, otherwise, it will be liable for rejection.
10. Application on original letter pad, having signature of the contractor, valid enlistment in PEC, copy of CNIC must be submitted for obtaining tender documents.
11. In case the total bid amount is less than 10% below the NIT amount, the bidder shall submit call deposit as performance security equal to the difference between NIT amount and total quoted amount less 10% of NIT amount. That is required performance security=NIT amount-total bid amount-10% of NIT amount. This call deposit shall be in addition to the earnest money for the work and shall be deposited at the time of submission of bids. Bids not carrying the Performance Security shall be rejected.
12. Tender documents will be issued to those firms who's possessed at least 02 Nos works orders regarding repair/ maintenance works along with the satisfactory completion certificate from the Divisional head and counter signed by the concerned Director.
13. **PEC certificate 2019 & Professional Tax Certificate, FBR income Tax clearance certificate in original will be seen before issue of tender.**
14. This notice may be seen at CDA Website: www.cda.gov.pk and PPRA Web Site: www.ppra.org.pk

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Maintenance Division-I

PRO(22)304/19

ISSB-GII

DAWN
the complete newspaper

Government of Pakistan Ministry of Housing & Works

Federal Government Employees Housing Authority Islamabad

TENDER NOTICE

Federal Government Employees Housing Authority (FGEHA), 10-Mauve Area, Sector G-10/4 Islamabad intends to invite sealed tenders on percentage rate basis on PM, PWD scheduled rates Civil (2012) & E/M (2004) and non-scheduled rates from contractors/ constructors having valid PEC registration for FY 2019-20 in relevant category (C-08) and codes (EE-04, CE-09 & CE-10) for the following works:

S. NO.	NAME OF WORK	ESTIMATED COST (RS.)	EARNEST MONEY	COST OF TENDER
1.	Provision of Drinking water for filtration plants at sub sector G-13/1,3, 4 & G-14/4, Islamabad	2,878,736/-	2% of Bid Amount	1000/- Non-Refundable

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. Interested firms/ contractors may purchase the tender documents upon written application from the office of undersigned upto 12.11.2019 during office hours against cash payment of specified fee.
2. Tender must be accompanied with call deposit 2% of the price of bid amount from any schedule bank of Pakistan in favour of Federal Government Employees Housing Authority, Islamabad.
3. No tender will be entertained without call deposit of required amount.
4. The submission of tender by the contractor implies that he is fully conversant with the site of work, scope of work, terms & conditions laid down in the tender documents.
5. The tender documents may be submitted latest by 13.11.2019 at 11.00 AM & will be opened on the same date at 11.30 AM in the presence of bidders or their representatives.
6. Conditional tender will not be acceptable.
7. The contractor will have to produce NIC, Income Tax registration (NTN), in original along with attest photocopies with application for purchase of tender documents.
8. Federal Government Employees Housing Authority reserve the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without any reason under rule 33(1) of PPRA 2004.
9. The advertisement is also available at www.ppra.org.pk and www.fgeha.gov.pk

Deputy Director (Technical)
Federal Government Employees Housing Authority,
10-Mauve Area, G-10/4, Islamabad
E-mail: fgehf89@gmail.com, Phone: +92-51-9106045

PRO(22)322/19

E-Tender Notice

Sealed tenders for the following works are hereby invited from Irrigation Department approved contractors, who have paid their registration / renewal fee for the year (2019-2020) on the below mentioned terms and conditions:

Work No.	Work name	E/Cost Rs. in (M)	Bid security	Required category of PEC	Last date / time of submission of tender forms	Time limit
A.	**ADP No. 1305 (160275) Providing FPS in rivers, nullahs and hills torrents in KPK.**					
1.	Construction of FPW Chajar District Mansehra	2.00	40,000	--	26/11/2019 At 12:00 Noon and will be opened on same date	As per work order
2.	Construction of FPW in village Gramhash District Mansehra	2.00	40,000	--	-do-	-do-
3.	Construction of FPW UC Shamdera, Ogha & Dilhori Tehsil Oghi District Mansehra	5.00	100,000	CE-04 CE-10	-do-	-do-
4.	Construction of FPW for protection of Jamia Masjid from Flood at mullah Katha at Upper Balia District Mansehra	2.00	40,000	--	-do-	-do-
5.	Providing flood protection work for the village abadies of Tandtah on Tandtah nullah Mansehra.	3.00	60,000	--	-do-	-do-
B.	**ADP No. 1307 (160280) Construction/ improvement of Irrigation channels, Bridges culverts, small storage ponds and Drainage system in KPK.**					
6.	Concrete lining of civil channel in UC Bufoon, Dilhori and Ogha Tehsil Oghi District Mansehra.	5.00	100,000	CE-04 CE-10	-do-	-do-

General Terms and Conditions:

1. Bid documents and instructions to bidders can be downloaded from Irrigation department website www.irrigation.gkp.pk before submission date/ time.
2. Scanned copy of bid security shall be submitted electronically along with the bid on E-Bidding system.
3. Venue of Bid opening is Hazara Irrigation Division Abbottabad.
4. Rule 37 (A) reproduced below necessitates that Registration of bidders with KPPRA is mandatory "all bidders are required to be registered with the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Revenue Authority, established under the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Finance Act 2013 (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Act No. XXI of 2013) for work, consulting and non-consulting services as listed in Schedule-II of the ACT ibid.

Executive Engineer
Hazara Irrigation Division, Abbottabad

"GO TO OFFICE"
Email: xen@hazarairrigation.gov.pk Send SMS to 9222

ISSB-GIII

DAWN

LAHORE Friday, November 1, 2019

METRO Central

LAHORE
Sunset 05:15 pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow) 06:18 am

NEXT 24 HRS
Minimum 18.0°C
Maximum 30.0°C
Outlook Dry Weather

Shadab shines as Pakistan down CA XI in T20 warm-up

Pg.22 SPORT

Judgement on Maryam's bail plea reserved

By Wajih Ahmad Sheikh

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court on Thursday reserved judgement on post-arrest bail petition of PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz in the Chaudhry Sugar Mills (CSM) case after the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) concluded its arguments.

After Additional Prosecutor General Jahanzeb Bharwana closed his arguments, a division bench comprising Justice Ali Baqar Najafi and Justice Sardar Ahmad Naeem reserved the verdict to be announced on Friday (today).

Later in the evening, the LHC media cell issued a press release saying the judgment would be announced on Monday (Nov 4).

In his lengthy arguments, Mr Bharwana challenged the humanitarian ground taken by Ms Nawaz for the relief of bail to look after her ailing father in hospital. He said the law did not have any such provision. Moreover, he said, there were no extraordinary circumstances or severe hardship in the case as per the guidelines described by the Supreme Court for the grant of bail.

He also questioned another argument by the petitioner's counsel that Ms Nawaz being a woman needed to be treated with leniency.

The prosecutor referred to a judgment wherein pre-arrest bail was denied to PPP leader Faryal Talpur. He said the request of the petitioner for bail on humanitarian ground was not maintainable. He pointed out that the petitioner had been allowed to stay with her father in hospital.

Challenging the bail on merits, the prosecutor argued that the case of the CSM had not been the subject matter of the Joint Investigation Team (JIT) formed by the SC in Panama Papers. Therefore, he said, the argument of double jeopardy made by the petitioner was not correct. He also read decision of the apex court in the Panama Papers case.

To a court's query, Mr Bharwana said the inquiry against the petitioner in the CSM was initiated after a January 2018 Suspicious Transaction Report (STR) received from the Financial Monitoring Unit (FMU). However, the bench after going through the STR

Continued on Page 16

LAWYERS gather on the premises of the Supreme Court registry during the Supreme Court Bar Association election. — White Star

Pakistan's own pollution causes smog, say experts

Traffic, industry, agriculture major polluters with 43, 25 and 20pc share, respectively

By Xari Jalil

LAHORE: As Lahore's smog levels crossed 550 on the Air Quality Index – signified as hazardous – environmental experts and activists both express their dismay and horror at what is to unfold further.

According to some instruments installed in Lahore, the Gulberg area even recorded 600 AQI. The last level of 'hazardous' on the AQI is shown as between 250 to 300 which necessitates the people with heart and lung diseases, older adults and children should remain indoors and keep activity levels low. All outdoor physical activity must be avoided, says the index.

Imran Khalid, who holds a PhD in Environmental Policy, says that in cooler weather (autumn and winter), the warm air does not allow the cooler air underneath to rise which leads to visible smog and this is what is being witnessed in Lahore and even as far as Islamabad.

"Some of the sources for this smog include vehicular pollution with very poor fuel quality being used along with lack of pollution control technologies in our vehicles, industrial pollution, burning of municipal and even industrial waste and brick kilns which again use dirty fuel such as rubber tyres," says Khalid who also heads the Environment and Climate Change Department at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad.

He believes the situation during this time of the year is made worse by crop stubble burning and depending on the wind direction, the pollution from either side of the border with India can indeed affect the neighbouring country.

However, he adds, it is important to remember that research shows that the key sources of air pollution in Pakistan are local in nature.

"A number of national and provincial level laws exist to address our exceedingly poor air quality but implementation is lacking. In fact, we do not have sufficient number of monitoring devices to monitor the air pollution levels in real time. This has led to a growth in the number of private, hand held monitors that have been deployed by the Pakistan Air Quality Initiative (PAQI), for example. Moreover, the US Embassy has also brought in its own monitors and placed them at

Continued on Page 16

Unesco includes Lahore in 'creative cities'

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Lahore has been selected in the list of cities that have been designated as Unesco Creative Cities. A total of 66 cities figure in the list for 2019.

It has been announced by Unesco Director-General Audrey Azoulay who said this step would favour 'political and social innovation' and would be particularly important for the youth.

"All over the world, these cities, each in their way, make culture a pillar - not an accessory - of their strategy," he said.

The project is being run by Unesco's Creative Cities to make these places laboratories of ideas and innovative practices and help in bringing a solid contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through innovative thinking and action.

The cities in the list have committed to advocate and achieve the SDGs especially those that directly benefit communities at the urban level.

The 66 cities have all been selected for one particular field. Lahore has been selected for Literature and the other cities in this category are Angoulême (France), Kuhmo (Finland), Wonju (Republic of Korea), Wroclaw (Poland), Slemani (Iraq), Leeuwarden (the Netherlands), Beirut (Lebanon), Nanjing (China), and Odessa (Ukraine).

The other categories are gastronomy, music, design, media arts, and film.

The Unesco Creative Cities Network now counts a total of 246 cities. The member cities that form part of the network come from all continents and regions with

Continued on Page 16

Nawaz's platelet count 'improves'

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Former prime minister Nawaz Sharif's platelets on Thursday increased from 35,000 to 51,000, showing improvement in his condition.

However, his blood pressure and sugar level was said to be still high.

The medical board headed by Services Hospital Principal Dr Mahmood Ayaz also examined Mr Sharif and conducted his tests.

Mr Sharif was shifted to the hospital from the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Lahore's custody on Oct 21 following his personal physician Dr Adnan Khan raised an alarm saying his (Sharif's) condition was serious as his platelets had dropped to a critically low level.

Initially, Mr Sharif was reluctant to go to hospital. However, he agreed to get treated at the Services Hospital when his younger brother Shahbaz Sharif, who was especially called there, persuaded him.

Earlier, Dr Adnan Khan had said that Nawaz Sharif's condition was "very serious" and he was fighting the battle for his health and life.

On Tuesday, the Islamabad High Court granted bail to Mr Sharif, suspending his seven-year sentence in the Al-Azizia corruption reference on medical ground. Earlier, Sharif secured bail in the Chaudhry Sugar Mills case from the Lahore High Court on medical ground.

PML-N secretary general Ahsan Iqbal had told *Dawn* that the first and foremost effort of the doctors was to stabilise Nawaz Sharif's condition. "Once Mian Sahib's condition is stabilised the matter of his going abroad will be considered and decided," Mr Iqbal said.

Kite string injury proves fatal for minor girl

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: A minor girl died after string of a stray kite injured her when her elder brother was taking her to market by motorcycle near Imamia Colony on Thursday.

The incident occurred when the siblings were going pass the level crossing, a police official said, adding that the girl was identified as Masooma (8), a resident of Dasarwal (Ferozewala). He said as they reached the main road, the string of the stray kite injured her. Her brother Abdul Rehman took her to hospital where doctors declared her dead.

The relatives and neighbours expressed anguish over the police's failure to control kite flying.

Recently, a young man had lost his life in a kite-flying related incident in Sandha and another person died in another incident.

PRAYER

Fajr	4.55
Juma	1.00
Asr	3.38
Maghrib	5.15
Isha	6.36

Waning time in Lahore

REFLECTIONS

"AN ADVICE: DO NOT LOSE HOPE IN GOD'S MERCY, AT THE SAME TIME DO NOT TAKE FOR GRANTED IMMUNITY FROM HIS PUNISHMENT."
— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)
(78AH427)

Lahore gets new SSP Operations

By Asif Chaudhry

LAHORE: The provincial capital police on Thursday got fourth Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Operations during the last one year with the appointment of SP Security Mohammad Naveed to the post.

The slot fell vacant after the premature transfer of last incumbent Faisal Shahzad 10 days after his appointment. Mr Shahzad's transfer generated a controversy and created uncertainty among the officers regarding security of tenure provided under the Police Order 2002.

An official told *Dawn* that the police higher-ups discussed the pros and cons of previous appointments before bringing in new officer to fill the second key operational slot. The issue of premature transfers also came under discussion and Mr Naveed's name was unanimously decided by the senior command of the Lahore police.

He said Capital City Police Officer B.A Nasir and DIG Operations Ashfaq Ahmad Khan recommended the appointment of Mohammad Naveed as SSP Operations to the IGP who endorsed the recommendation and issued order to appoint the BS-18 officer against the vacant slot. He said Mr Naveed was preferred for the slot because there was shortage of BS-19 police officers in Punjab due to delay in the promotion board meeting of BS-18 officers.

Secondly, he said, there were few officers in the Punjab police who had done Mid-Career Management Course (MCMC), a mandatory step for the officers of the federal and provincial government in BS-18 for promotion to the next scale. As a result, most BS-19 slots had been occupied by the BS-18 officers across the province, he said.

He said there was no bar to making appointment of BS-18 police officer against one-step senior position because there was no difference in the administrative and financial powers.

SECURITY personnel check the luggage of passengers at the Lahore Railway Station.— White Star

Penalties over poor indicators in schools withdrawn

By Imran Gabol

LAHORE: The Punjab School Education Department (SED) has announced ending the Shahbaz-era system of punishing schoolteachers for poor cleanliness, low attendance of students, less enrollment and other administrative issues.

Teacher unions have long been protesting against the heavy fines and stoppage of promotion over not achieving targets under the Chief Minister Roadmap.

District education officers would carry out monthly inspections of schools in their areas to check 14 indicators which included teachers and student's attendance, retention, boundary wall, cleanliness in classrooms and washrooms, Universal Primary Education, classroom furniture, electricity, fan and other facilities. Monitoring teams imposed fines from Rs5,000 to 10,000 on teachers for missing indicators.

They were also penalized over different poor indicators like low attendance of students and they were directed to visit the residences of absentees a number of times to convince their parents to ensure their children's presence in school.

Teachers unions lodged complaints time and again with the department against fines over missing facilities, saying teachers could not be held responsible for poor cleanliness and absence of drinking water, electricity and furniture in schools. They demanded the pooling of funds to ensure cleanliness and provision of funds for fixing water, sanitation, electricity and other issues.

Unions protested against the imposition of fine and stopping their promotion over poor indicators several times and termed it injustice.

SED Secretary Irum Bokhari told Dawn it was not the duty of teachers to clean school as there should a sweeper to do the job. She said in the past some teachers were forced to clean washrooms and they were also fined for poor enrollment in the school, not having drinking water and other facilities.

Ms Bukhari said the department was working to devise a new framework under which CEOs, DEAs, DEOs and administration of the school would be answerable to the department and penalised for any poor indication.

She tweeted: "Imposition of fines based upon unreasonable indicators is being stopped forthwith. I will issue directions to Chief Executive Officers. We will develop a new monitoring framework with fair & realistic indicators in consultation with our stakeholders, the respected teachers."

Meanwhile, Punjab Minister for School Education Murad Raas tweeted the notification of cancellation of fines on teachers, saying: "School Education Department has decided to steer away from excessive monitoring and focus on school improvement and action management through a new School Improvement Framework which will emphasize incentives rather than fine."

It adds the SED secretary has directed CEOs of district education authorities that all fines under any protest would be discontinued with immediate effect.

The Punjab Teachers Union (PTU) welcomed the step of the government to reset education indicators and canceling fines.

PTU Secretary-General Rana Liaqat told Dawn teachers were facing heavy fines and their annual promotions were being stopped over poor attendance of the students, poor results and poor cleanliness.

He said they welcomed the decision.

"The decision would provide relief to teachers and result in improving their performance," he said.

He said the government was trying to introduce new reforms in the school education department and they should take the teachers on board and social and financial exploration of the teachers should also be stopped.

1,100 Sikh pilgrims arrive with gold Palki

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The first batch of some 1,100 Sikh pilgrims along with a gold Palki for Gurdwara Darbar Sahib, Kartarpur, arrived here through Wagah Border on Thursday.

The Sikh pilgrims later left for Nankana Sahib.

The Palki will be installed at Gurdwara Darbar Sahib, Kartarpur, in connection with the 550th birthday celebrations of Baba Guru Nanak.

The Indian authorities had stopped the bus that was carrying the gold Palki at well guru grough leader Shiromani Akali Dal Delhi President Paramjit Singh Sarna at Attari border. The pilgrims were carrying the Palki on their shoulders.

The Sikh pilgrims, welcomed by Punjab Governor Chaudhry Sarwar and Evacuee Trust Property Board Chairman Amir Ameer Khan, paid glowing tributes to the Pakistan government for putting in place effective measures for the birthday celebrations of Baba Guru Nanak. MPA Mahinderpal Singh, Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee President Sardar Satnam Singh, Rangers officials and others were also present.

Speaking to the media, the governor said despite all Indian negative propaganda and lame excuses, Prime Minister Imran Khan would inaugurate Kartarpur Corridor project on Nov 9. He said some 100,000 Sikh pilgrims from across the world, including India, would reach Pakistan to attend the birthday celebrations of Baba Guru Nanak.

He said the Sikh pilgrims would install the gold Palki at Kartarpur Darbar Sahib on the inauguration of the Kartarpur project. He said all arrangements, including security, had been finalised to facilitate the Sikh pilgrims.

Mr Sarwar said the Religious Tourism and Heritage Committee was taking measures to promote religious tourism in the country.

Six rescued from building on fire

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Rescue 1122 teams safely rescued six members of a family trapped in a building housing a shop where a fire broke out on Thursday.

According to initial reports, the fire erupted in an LPG decanting shop on College Road near Barkat Chowk. As soon as gas leakage started, the shop caught fire and the flames engulfed a portion of the building housing the LPG outlet, a police official said.

He said five females and a child of a family got trapped in the building because of the fire and dense smoke.

He said Rescue 1122 teams rushed to the site, recovered the trapped family safely and controlled the blaze after two-hour efforts.

The police have started investigation.

ACCIDENT: Two young men lost their lives when their motorcycle met with an accident on Raiwind Road on Thursday.

According to initial information, Amjad, 22, and Qadeer, 17, of Sharifabah Colony were going to a market when their bike collided with a pole due to speeding.

The two young men suffered multiple head injuries and died on the spot.

The police handed over the bodies to families.

CHARAS SEIZED: Police recovered 38kg high quality charas from an ambulance on the Ravi bridge.

A police official said the police signalled the ambulance of a private company on suspicion at a picket on the Ravi bridge. The driver accelerated the speed of the ambulance, but it got stuck in the traffic. The driver left his vehicle and escaped taking an advantage of rush.

When the police personnel checked the vehicle, they found 38kg charas concealed in seats. — **Staff Reporter**

Unesco...

Continued from Page 15

different income levels and populations.

Unesco representatives said the cities work together towards a common mission - placing creativity and the creative economy at the core of their urban development plans to make cities safe, resilient, inclusive and sustainable, in line with the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

According to Unesco, its DG is responsible for the designation of the cities in conformity with a certain procedure that includes submission of an application.

Burn units promised at two hospitals

Dawn Report

RAHIM YAR KHAN/ BAHAWALPUR: Chief Minister Usman Buzdar, Health Minister Yasmin Rasehid and Railways Minister Sheikh Rashid visited the Sheikh Zayed Medical College Hospital and met those injured in the Tetgam fire.

Buzdar announced a burn unit at the SZMCH and a trauma center at the THQ Hospital, Liaqatpur.

Punjab Minister for Food Samiullah Chaudhry visited the BVH surgical ward to meet the injured. On the occasion, the minister said that Punjab government would add a burn unit to the BVH.

There is no burn unit in any south Punjab hospital except Nishtar Hospital, Multan.

Judgement on Maryam's bail plea reserved

Continued from Page 15

observed that it was unable to find a direct mention of the petitioner in the report.

The prosecutor said the CSM was clearly mentioned in the STR while petitioner's father Nawaz Sharif was the principal accused in it. He said the petitioner had been a director in the CSM and was a beneficiary of its funds being daughter of Mr Sharif.

Mr Bharwana said the petitioner failed to explain a heavy amount of 4.6 million US dollars received from three UAE nationals including Nasser Hussain Lootah.

At this, petitioner's counsel Amjad Pervez interrupted and said the amount in question was not transferred to her client but to Yousaf Abbas and Abdul Aziz Abbas, the directors of the mills.

The prosecutor said Yousaf transferred Rs70 million to the petitioner from the amount received from the UAE. He said the shares of the petitioner in the mills swelled from four to 47pc from 2005 to 2009 with unexplained sources of income.

Referring to a statement of prosecution witness Mr Lootah, Justice Najafi observed that the foreign national said the money sent to Pakistan was an investment in real estate business.

"How can you call this transaction suspicion or relate this to corruption?" the judge asked the prosecutor.

The prosecutor said the petitioner was supposed to justify the suspicious transactions.

However, Justice Najafi observed that initially the burden to prove the allegation always lied upon the prosecution.

Answering another question, the prosecutor said there was no inquiry by the Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) into the suspicious transactions of the sugar mills' accounts. He added that the scope of the jurisdiction of the SECP was limited to enforcement of its regulations only as its law did not cover investigation into corrupt practices.

"Without having a definite finding can we assume that the assets of the petitioner were accumulated through crime proceeds?" Justice Najafi posed another question to the prosecutor.

The prosecutor, however, said the petitioner had failed to explain the transactions and her assets had been found beyond known source of income. Before the bench rose, the prosecutor also submitted copies of the case law and argued that the petition was not maintainable.

'March impacting Kashmir issue'

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi regrets the Azadi March has shifted focus from the Kashmir issue (to the march) that was being highlighted at international level after strenuous efforts.

He told reporters at Governor House on Thursday that the government had signed an agreement with opposition parties' Rehbar Committee and would honour it. He said the government gave a free hand to Azadi March protesters to arrive in Islamabad whereas in 2014 his party workers were baton-charged, when they marched on Islamabad. He said political differences should be resolved through a dialogue.

He said the Pakistan's decision to open the Kartarpur Corridor had won the goodwill of Sikhs the world over and despite Indian shelling on the Line of Control, Pakistan did not block the corridor project. He said Pakistan was ensuring religious freedom, while India had completely suppressed religious freedom in held Kashmir and even mosques were being locked at the time of Juma prayers.

He said Azad Kashmir Prime Minister Raja Farooq Haider was in touch with the government and added that he had right to present his case at any forum in the world.

Two get death for rape, murder of minor boy

By Our Correspondent

BAHAWALNAGAR: A session court in Minchinabad on Thursday handed down capital punishment to two men for abduction, rape and murder of a seven-year-old boy.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Sarfraz Ahmed announced the verdict, handing down death on two counts to the suspects — Saleem and Akhtar — under sections 302 (premeditated murder), 364 A (abducting a minor in order to murder), and 377 (punishment for sodomy) of the Pakistan Penal Code.

The minor boy was abducted on May 19, 2019, from a Sunday market in the jurisdiction of McLeod Ganj police station.

A First Information Report was registered on May 23, 2019, on the complaint of the boy's parents by the police, initially treating the matter as a kidnap case.

According to the complainant's counsel Roy Ghulam Mujtaba Kharal, police investigators told the court during the trial that Saleem and Akhtar kidnapped the child from a Sunday market and took him to nearby fields where they raped and then killed him and buried the body there.

On the complaint of the victim's father, the police launched a manhunt and with the help of a CCTV footage of a petrol pump near the Sunday market arrested two suspects on May 24, 2019, who confessed their crime during investigation.

The victim's family members were present during the trial and expressed satisfaction at the outcome.

The court also imposed Rs0.1m fine on each of the convicts and ordered them to pay Rs0.5m compensation to the victim's family.

The judge informed the convicts that they could challenge the verdict within seven days.

Kidnapped infant girl recovered

By Our Correspondent

TOBA TEK SINGH: An Arrest police team raided Tandliawala (Faisalabad) on Thursday and recovered an infant girl who was kidnapped on Oct 26 on the second day of the annual Urs of Pir Syed Qutab Ali Shah of Sindhlianwali.

A police official said that four-month-old Fatima Bibi went missing near the shrine where the family from Jhang came to pay homage to the saint.

The police geo-fenced the area and with the help of the data traced kidnappers Shamin Bibi, of Sindhlianwali, and her son Tanweer.

Both confessed kidnapping the infant girl and later selling her to a childless family of Tandliawala.

KILLED: A woman died under the wheels of a tractor trolley in Gojra on Thursday.

The Gojra Saddar police said Rafiqan Bibi, 60, was standing at the bus stop on Gojra-Montgi Road when the tractor-trolley hit her.

She died of wounds while being shifted to the Gojra tehsil headquarters hospital.

Gunman killed in 'encounter'

By Our Correspondent

VEHARI: An alleged gunman was killed in an encounter with the police on Thursday in Mauza Gakhorwah, 30 kilometres from here, while his three accomplices fled.

According to a press release by the police, the police learned about the presence of four gunmen at their hideout. The police raided the place only to be met with resistance.

Both sides exchange fire for one hour. Later, the police found Sajid, alias Saji, killed at the scene and the three others missing. These gunmen were active in Bahawalnagar, Bahawalpur and Pakpattan. The deceased gunman was wanted in several cases.

District Police Officer Akhtar Fatoorg said Sajid was also involved in the Oct 19 robbery where he killed guard Shehzad in Luddan. He was wanted in over a dozen cases of dacoity, murder and vehicle snatching. The accomplices on the run would be arrested soon.

Allied wears deserted look because of doctors strike

By Our Staff Correspondent

— Dawn photos

FAISALABAD: All wards of the Allied Hospital, except the emergency facility, wore a deserted look on Thursday as the doctors refused to admit or treat patients following a strike call given by the Grand Health Alliance.

A few patients who had already been admitted to different wards of the hospital, were found complaining of doctors absence.

However, the nurses, who had also announced to join the strike in solidarity with the doctors, were witnessed performing their duties. Besides performing their duties, the nurses had been taking part in the protest at the out-patient department.

Some of the protesting doctors alleged they had been forced to withdraw services at the outpatient and indoor wards of the hospital because of lethargic attitude of the health authorities.

They warned if the government did not initiated a dialogue with them for resolving their issues, their protest movement would accelerate.

Sources said the doctors also forcibly discharged many patients admitted to various wards of the hospital. However, the patients who had been admitted by senior faculty members because of their serious health condition were still getting treatment.

Abon admission of some new patients despite the strike, the doctors said they could not refuse them treatment because of their condition. "But it did not mean that the doctors working in the wards having patients were opposing the strike," they added.

Attendants of some of the patients who were present outside some wards and the main building of the hospital said why the patients were being punished because of the tussle between the doctors and the government officials.

They said it was very painful for the patients as well as their attendants visiting the hospital from far-flung areas when they were refused treatment because of the doctors strike.

Anti-locust operation suspended as pesticides stocks run out

By Majeed Gill

BAHAWALPUR: With the suspension of the pesticide spray to eradicate swarms of locust in the desert, crops in Cholistan are under the threat of insects' attack.

The rural areas in two tehsils Ahmedpur east and Yazman of the district came under the attack of the insects on Thursday. Agriculture Director Khalid Sandhu said. According to the director, they launched the operation to destroy them.

Dawn learnt that the earlier ongoing operation had been suspended 10 days ago, mainly due to the unavailability of pesticides as the entire stocks provided by Punjab and federal governments have been sprayed by the teams of agriculture department.

The operation began in the wake of the influx of swarms in past months in Cholistan from the Indian side of Rajasthan.

Fields teams of the revenue department and the Cholistan Development Authority (CDA) fought against such swarms and, according to some insiders, succeeded to wipe out the insects but their constant flights from Indian side have damaged some of the areas in the vast desert of Cholistan.

The attack of the insect also deprived the Cholistan's livestock of their normal grazing grounds. Farmers have demanded the resumption of stocks of the pesticides supplies to eliminate the locusts in the winter season.

Agriculturists on the condition of anonymity told *Dawn* that the field plant protection staff was forced to suspend the operation due to the late imports of pesticides. They said the government should have been alive to the situation.

CDA focal person Imtiaz Lashari told *Dawn* the the anti-locust operation had been suspended for about 03 days, but it was being resumed soon. He said presently he was in Kanganpur to arrange the resumption of the operation as the pesticides supply was about to reach here.

He said though the pesticides were in adequate quantity with the field staff teams but due to excessive operations to destroy the locusts, they ran short of pesticides.

Mr Lashari said the swarms were invading the desert from the border for their onward journey to Lasbella in Balochistan as the with the advent of winter season the Cholistan was now becoming cold and locusts were seeking rather some hot or mild weather areas.

Rasul college to be run by chancellor's committee

By Waseem Ashraf Butt

GUJRAT: The Punjab University of Technology (PUT), Rasul, Mandi Bahauddin, may work under a chancellor's committee until the formation of its syndicate since the varsity administration is facing multiple issues relating to the execution of future plans.

Prof Dr Shabbar Atiq, vice-chancellor of the University of Gujrat (UoG), who also holds additional charge of the PUT Rasul, has written to the provincial industries department seeking the constitution of a chancellor's committee as a makeshift arrangement for the administrative decisions since the formation of syndicate of the varsity has yet to be done.

The act of PUT Rasul was approved by the Punjab Assembly in May 2018. The incumbent government handed over the additional charge of VC, registrar, treasurer and controller examination offices to the officers posted on same seats in the UoG few months ago.

Mr Atiq met the Rasul college staff on Wednesday.

The PUT Rasul was established by the provincial industries department, not by the Higher Education Department. Also, the principal of the Rasul college is being appointed as the coordinator by the VC secretariat to assist the varsity administration to make the varsity campus functional.

The VC secretariat has planned to launch classes in electrical, mechanical and civil technologies in 2020 as Rs125 million has been sought for initial civil infrastructure of the the PUT.

Mr Atiq will spend Saturdays in the Rasul college. Mr Atiq has also been given the additional charge of the VC University of Mianwali besides being the project director of the University of Narowal.

Action against education officers, school heads

By Our Correspondent

SAHIWAL: Chief Executive Officer (Education) Sajjad Adam has suspended a headmaster and issued show-cause notice to others and education heads for failing to make arrangements of cleanliness, dengue-awareness campaigns, teachers attendance and closure of children's room during a surprise visit to schools.

Abdur Rasheed, headmaster of the Government Elementary School 139/9-L, has been suspended and AEO Muhammad Bilal served with an explanation notice for poor cleanliness. Ashwa Zafar, headmistress of the Government Girls Elementary School, Mansoor Colony, and AEO Sodiya Sadiq were issued show-cause notices for not clearing garbage from the school boundary walls.

Yasmin Akhtar, headmistress of the Government Elementary School, 133/9-L, and Misbah Kausar, headmistress of the Government Girls MC School No 12, were issued show-cause notices as they allegedly failed to maintain teacher attendance and kids room.

The headmistress of the Government Girls High School, 135/9-L, was also issued show-cause notice for not properly cutting weeds and grass from the lawns.

CEO Sajjad Adam told *Dawn* that he, along with district education officers, conducted surprise visits to schools to bring about efficiency and discipline.

THEFT CASE: A case has been registered against three people for stealing Rs200,000 worth fire-wood from Block No 1 Forest in Chichawatni Circle.

Sub-Divisional Forest Officer Rana Qammar Duman told reporters on Thursday forest guard Zaheer Hussain and black officer Asad Abbas had been suspended from service in this connection.

A fact finding committee held the forest guard as theft. The Sadar Police registered a case against three people without any arrest.

Forest reserves are located along the railway line in south and along Lower Bari Doab Canal in north on 11,533 acres.

Woman acid attack suspect arrested

By Our Correspondent

MUZAFFARGARH: A woman who had thrown acid on a family was arrested from Sindh by Alipur police on Friday.

District Police Officer (DPO) Sadiq Ali Dogar said Naseem Mai had thrown acid where three members of a family were burnt badly. The injured were sent to Nishtar Hospital, Multan for treatment while she fled to Sindh province. A police team arrested her on Friday.

The DPO said Naseem was angry with the family for refusing the marriage proposal of her relative for their girl. Alipur police registered the case against her.

KILLED: A trader was killed by robbers in Khangarh over resistance.

Police said unidentified robbers killed Ghulam Muhammad Khan, a trader of mangoes, during a robbery. Police registered the case.

OBITUARY

It is with deep sorrow we announce the passing away of

Ms. Nafees Mahmood

beloved daughter of Late Mr. MAK Chaudhry (Former Interior Secretary-IG Police) and Begum Suraiya Mahmood (*Inna Lillah e wa inna ilaihe Rajeoon*).

Her Qul will be held on Saturday 02 November between 4 and 5 pm at her residence 65 Q, Street 2, Phase 2, DHA Lahore.

Begum Suraiya Mahmood
Moazam and Noreen Mahmood
Farukh and Shahrukh Pracha
Mehr and Sherjeel Bedaar
Faisal and Maheen Yaqub
Adoring Grandchildren
Dr. Shahid Amjad Chaudhry
and all members of the family

Cases of financial aid for deserving artists reviewed

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: A meeting of 'Artist Support Fund Committee' was held at Alhamra Art Centre, The Mall, on Thursday, chaired by Punjab Information and Culture Secretary Raja Jahangir Anwar.

According to a press release, Mr Anwar said the private sector would also contribute along the public sector to financial support of the artists.

"The government is taking concrete steps for promotion of art and artists. They are a valuable asset to us and we truly understand their difficulties."

He further said the services of the artists were everlasting for development of art and culture and the government acknowledged and supported their work.

During the meeting, various cases of financial assistance for the deserving artists were reviewed. In the light of the recommendations of the subcommittee, financial support would be provided to the deserving artists. The meeting decided to take all possible steps for the artists' welfare.

Mr Anwar added that the details of valuable artworks would be collected at the government offices across the province and concrete steps would be taken to ensure their safety. He said the Punjab government was working hard to promote arts and to resolve the problems of artists' community.

The meeting was attended by the heads of all departments of the Punjab Information and Culture.

SEASON 12: Coke Studio is all set to release the third episode of Season 12, featuring 'Aadam' by Fareed Ayaz and Abu Muhammad with Ihaanawa, 'Chal Raha Hoon' by Umair Jaswal, and 'Mubarik Mubarik' by Ranar's Band and Atif Aslam. This episode of Coke Studio Season 12 will be aired today (Friday), says a release.

Presenting the story of mankind's innate connection to music are Fareed Ayaz and Abu Muhammad with 'Aadam', a composition by Amir Khusrow that has been handed down to them through the Sufi tradition. The piece, as presented by the duo, brings together three couplets and two tarana expressing the legacy of music in the Sufi tradition as well as the collective human inheritance.

The first couplet narrates the incident of Hazrat Aadam's creation as told by Khusrow, presenting music as humankind's divine inheritance and an integral part of our story in the divine order. It is joined by two other couplets, celebrating the Sufi Chishti Order's religious practice of using music as a vessel to gain connection with the divine, and recalling the famed musical gatherings of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya.

A piece that follows its own ebb and flow, 'Aadam' is presented by Coke Studio with Fareed Ayaz and Abu Muhammad at the helm, leading the rise and fall of this composition as it climbs towards its crescendo.

Revisiting the heartache of a loss experienced years ago, Umair Jaswal brings 'Chal Raha Hoon' to Coke Studio. Written during Umair's seminary years, 'Chal Raha Hoon' is a song that flows between grief and hope, speaking of the darkness that follows the end of a relationship.

Celebrating the rich relationship between music and wedding festivities in our part of the world, 'Mubarik Mubarik' comes with unique hues of the Baloch culture. The lyrics are simple and a mix of two aspects of Balochi poetry and music: *hasbi* and *nazek*. A song of celebration, the nazek aspect of Mubarik Mubarik praises and celebrates the bride and bridegroom on their wedding day. The song also lives within the *hasbi* genre of Balochi poetry wherein the word *hasbi* is repeated several times and means 'come', inviting listeners to join the festivities. Musically, the song also includes a *sahirok*, which is the Balochi counterpart of Eastern Classical ragas and forms the basis of Balochi music.

SOYEM

Soyem of my mother
Mrs. Husan Ara Wajahat

W/O (late) Wajahat Hussain Siddqiui

Shall be held on
Saturday 2nd November 2019, between Asr and Maghrib
at House No. A-108/2, 25th Street,
off Khayaban-e-Sehr, DHA.

For both ladies and gentlemen.

Family

Nabila/Sohail, 0321-2201119
Roohi/Shahid, 0345-5099994
Sana/Umair, 0321-9240678
Sara/Omair

ADVERTISER

CHANGE OF NAME

OKARA

I have changed my name from Sohail to Sohaira Shahzad. In future my name is write and call Sohaira Shahzad Address: Street No. 6, Mohalla Mukhtar Colony, Makhi Town, Okara (257332201116)

COMMERCIAL RENTAL AVAILABLE

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CANTONMENT

CANTONMENT Fortress Stadium, Lahore. Al-mumtaz offers 5 marla plaza 3600 sq ft covered area, 3 floors, best for multinational, brands, food chain, banks, cloths, toy stores etc. Fortress is business hub of Lahore Contact: Mumtaz Khan 0321-4016721 (257332291018)

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

GWADAR

OTHERS

GWADAR Abbasi Associates, Geratic, New Town, Sanghar, Gwda, DHA City, Bahria, Lt Col (Retd) Asif Fawad Pathan 0342-5115800, 021-35477036, Riaz Khan 0321-2007036, 0333-3906009 (192732840152)

DESIGNER & CONSULTANTS

LAHORE

BUILT free map from Syed's Gray Structure rate at 1000 to 1200. Supervision rate only 100%. Complete home upto 1800 0321-4057521 (257752275226)

LOST & FOUND

LAHORE

ORIGINAL Chartered Accountancy C.A Certificate in Accounting and Finance (CAF) issued to Abdul Muneem S/o Abdul Hameed, CRN-81116 has been lost. Any person who finds the above may kindly return it to Mr. Abdul Muneem Address: Mohallah Peroz Saleem Fateh Garh, Daska Road, Sialkot Contact: 0333-3340119 (193191013215)

RESIDENTIAL RENTAL AVAILABLE

LAHORE

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CANTONMENT Main 800 yards house, gated community, 5 bath & vicinity with 2 servant rooms & basement, available to rent/Late Service clients only 0300-4006501 (257332291111)

COURT NOTICE

BAHAWALPUR

IN the Court of Mr. Tahir Mahmood Ansari, Civil Judge, Bahawalpur. Case No. 56 year 2019 Dawa Integrated Iraq, Title case: Muhammad Sajid, Versus, Province of the Punjab etc, Notice to Hassan Sagib s/o (unknown), resident of behind of Sadiq Check Post Abdul Ghafoor Lane near resident of Syed Irfan Garden, Bahawalpur. Whereas service of defendants/respondents is not going to be effected through ordinary means. So, service of defendants/respondents be effected through proclamation in the newspaper. You defendants/respondents are directed to appear in the court in person or through counsel on 04-11-2019 at 9:00am, failing which, ex-parte proceedings shall be initiated against you. Given under my hand and the seal of this court. Civil Judge, Bahawalpur. (257233867669)

GUJRAT

IN the Court of Mr. Shahbaz Iqbal Tarar, Additional Session Judge, Gujrat. Appeal Submission, Title: Talat Mahmood etc. Versus, Province of the Punjab etc. Notice to: Province of the Punjab through District Officer (Revenue) Distt. Gujrat, Tehsildar Hafiz Lundpur Teh. & Distt. Gujrat, Girdawar & Halqa Lundpur Teh. & Distt. Gujrat, Patwari Halqa Lundpur Teh. & Distt. Gujrat, Deputy District Officer (Registration) Sub-Registrar Gujrat, Muhammad Khalid (son), Rukhsana Kousar, Rehana Kousar, Faziana Kousar, Shabana Kousar (daughters), Khursheed Bibi w/o Muhammad Khan, (wife) Arain, s/o Mohallah Chah Rhday Gujrat, Tariq Mehmood, Ishtiaque Mehmood, Akhtar Hussain (sons), Gulzar Bibi, Shahnaz Bibi d/o Barkat Bibi (late) d/o Muhammad Ramzan, caste Arain, s/o Mohallah Begampura Gujrat, Muhammad Ejaz s/o Muhammad Younas, caste Arain, s/o Mohallah Chah Khuday Gujrat. Whereas service of defendants/respondents is not going to be effected through ordinary means. So, service of defendants/respondents be effected through proclamation in the newspaper. You defendants are directed to appear in the court in person or through counsel on 01-11-2019 at 9:00am, failing which, ex-parte proceedings shall be initiated against you. Given under my hand and the seal of this court. Additional Session Judge, Gujrat. (257532427991)

MULTAN

IN the Court of Mr. Shamshad Ali Rana, Additional Distt. & Session Judge, Multan. Suit for recovery of Rs. 450000/-, Title: Zafar Iqbal, Versus, Mazhar Abbas etc. Mazhar Abbas s/o Muhammad Ramzan, caste Khoja, s/o Mouza Lattewali, Basti Nizam Abad Multan. Whereas in the above mentioned case it has proved to the satisfaction of the court that the above mentioned defendants cannot be served in the ordinary way. It is, therefore, proclaimed under Section 10 C.P.C that the said defendants will shall not appear personally or through a duly authorize agent or pleader in this court at 9:00am on 02-11-2019 the proceedings will be taken ex-parte. No application of any nature shall be entertained thereafter. Given under my hand and seal of this court. Additional Distt. & Session Judge, Multan. (256333582127)

IN the Court of Raja Qamar-ul-Zaman, Judge Banking Court-II, New Judicial Complex, Mehr Tell Road, Multan. Suit No. 262/2019 (ZTB), Branch: at Lodhran through Manager, Plaintiff, Versus, Mehmood Iqbal s/o Abdullah, caste Baloch, r/o Mouza Dargah Pur Distt. Lodhran. Defendants. Proclamation U/S 9(3) Financial Institution Recovery of Financial Ordinance 48 of 2001. Whereas the aforesaid plaintiff has instituted a suit against you and others for recovery of Rs.306662/- 03 along with markup/interest and costs etc, claimed to be payable by you.

Proclamation u/s 9(3) ordinance 48 of 2001 to the above is hereby issued requiring you to make written to 30 days of this proclamation, an application for leave to defend the suit. Taken notice that on you failure to file such application within time specified above the Banking Court shall pass a decree as prayed for in the plaint. Next date for further proceedings, in the case has been fixed on 07-11-2019. Given under my hand and seal of the court on 21-09-2019. Judge Banking Court-II, Multan. (256013161245)

IN the Court of Raja Qamar-ul-Zaman, Judge Banking Court-II, New Judicial Complex, Mehr Tell Road, Multan. Suit No. 260/2019, The Bank of Punjab, Branch Bosewala, Distt. Vehari. Versus, M/s Quality Cotton Ginners Head Office 52-D, Grain Market Bosewala, (2) Chak No. 515/EB Kamgrd Road, Bosewala, (3) Mr. Ayub s/o Ch. M. Sulaman Sabir R/o Chak No. 515/EB, (4) Mr. M. Tahir s/o M. Saleem, r/o H. No. 124/77, Block-K, Bosewala, (4) Khalid Maqsood through legal heirs, (i) Mst. Kausar Tasneem widow, (ii) Saima Khalid daughter, (iii) Awais Yousaf, all r/o House No. 124/77, Block-K, Khalid Maqsood, all r/o Ghuman House, Masoom Shah Road, Yousafabad Bosewala, Distt. Vehari, M/s Sinaco Industries (Pvt) Ltd. Kamgrd Road Bosewala, Shoukat Kamran Ghumman s/o Ch. M. Yousaf Ghumman House, Masood Shah Road, Yousafabad Bosewala, (7) M. Saleem s/o Abdul Sattar H. No. 124/77, new K-Block, Bosewala. Proclamation U/S 9(3) Financial Institution Recovery of Finances Ordinance 48 of 2001. Whereas the aforesaid plaintiff has instituted a suit against you and others for recovery of Rs.s33423681/- along with markup, interest and costs etc. claimed to be payable by you. Next date in case has been fixed: 03-10-2019. Issuance date: 15-10-2019. Judge Banking Court-II, Multan. (256013161228)

OKARA

IN the Court of Mr. Muhammad Naeem Sheikh, Additional Distt. & Session Judge, Okara. Appeal Nigrani Dewani Title: Shahnaz Kousar Versus, Jameela Kousar etc. Notice to: Robina Kousar, 119, Meadfield Road, Slough SL3 8HY U.K. Apartment 16 Printess House Main Street Swords Co Dublin Republic of Ireland. Whereas service of defendants/respondents is not going to be effected through ordinary means. So, service of defendants/respondents be effected through proclamation in the newspaper. You defendants/respondents are directed to appear in the court in person or through counsel on 01-11-2019 at 9:00am, failing which, ex-parte proceedings shall be initiated against you. Given under my hand and the seal of this Court on this 30-10-2019 date of Wednesday. Additional District & Session Judge, Okara. (257332291235)

FAISALABAD

IN the Court of Miss Rabia Tanvir, Civil Judge 1st Class/Judge Family Court, Faisalabad. Title: Mst. Hira Aroog d/o Abid Khursheed (w/o Muhammad Ilyas) Versus Mst. Rabia Nazir, H-118, Street No. 3, Main Bazar # 3, Faiza Abad, Faisalabad, presently Chak No. 215/J.B, Tehsil Sadar, District Faisalabad. Versus, Muhammad Umar, Notice to: Muhammad Umar s/o Zahoor Hussain r/o House No. 86, Street No. 2, Block-F, Vehari, presently Australia University of Tasmania Room No. 314, Research Ukaria 13 Street Johns Avenue New Town TAS-7008 Australia. Whereas service of defendants/respondents is not going to be effected through ordinary means. So, service of defendants/respondents be effected through proclamation in the newspaper. You defendants/respondents are directed to appear in the court in person or through counsel on 03-11-2019 at 9:00am, failing which, ex-parte proceedings shall be initiated against you. Today was my signature and seal of the court. Civil Judge 1st Class/Judge Family Court, Faisalabad. (257233867654)

IN the Court of Mr. Jahangir Ali Gondal, Additional District & Session Judge / Special Judge Gas Utility Court, Faisalabad Title: SNGPL, Versus, Maqbool Ahmad Bajwa, Notice to: Maqbool Ahmad Bajwa, r/o 4-3 Dar ul Sardar Charitr, Chenab Nagar. Whereas, the aforesaid plaintiff has sue against you and other for recovery of Rs.2,94,418/- claim to be payable by you relevant above is hereby issued requiring you to make within 21 days of the service of this summon an application for leave to defend. Take notice that on your failure to file such application within time specified above, the Court shall pass a decree as prayed for in the plain in favour of the plaintiff. Next date for further proceedings, in the case has been fixed on 04-11-2019. Addition-al District & Session Judge / Special Judge Gas Utility Court, Faisalabad. (257233867657)

IN the Court of Mr. Nadeem Akhtar Tabbassum, Additional District & Session Judge / Special Judge Gas Utility Court, Faisalabad Title: SNGPL Versus M/s Kashif ul Mahjoob Siling through its Proprietor Shakeel Ahmad s/o Shukat Ali r/o Chak No. 66-J Shantikot Road near Airport Chowk Jhang Road, Faisalabad. Whereas the aforesaid plaintiff has sue against you and other for recovery of Rs.33,26,220/- claim to be payable by you relevant above is hereby issued requiring you to make within 21 days of the service of this summon an application for leave to defend. Take notice that on your failure to file such application within time specified above, the Court shall pass a decree as prayed for in the plain in favour of the plaintiff. Next date for further proceedings, in the case has been fixed on 04-11-2019. Addition-al District & Session Judge / Special Judge Gas Utility Court, Faisalabad. (257233867667)

SAMUNDRI

IN the Court of Mr. Sahib Gul Khan Baloch, Civil Judge 1st Class, Samundri, Distt. Faisalabad. Dawa Integrate Iraq, Title: Shahbaz Bibi w/o Muhammad Ramzan through Rasheedan Bibi Alt w/o Akbar Ali d/o Muhammad Rahman (Guardian plaintiff Shahbaz Bibi), r/o Chak No. 462 GB, Teh. Samundri, Versus, Public at Large etc, Notice to: Public at Large, Parveen Akhtar w/o Muhammad Ramzan, caste Arain, r/o Chak No. 462 GB, Teh. Samundri, prevent resident of 50-Main Street Fauld House West, Lothian Bath Dal 67h HY United Kingdom. Whereas service of defendants/respondents is not going to be effected through ordinary means. So, service of defendants/respondents be effected through proclamation in the newspaper. You defendants/respondents are directed to appear in the court in person or through counsel on 05-11-2019 at 9:00am, failing which, ex-parte proceedings shall be initiated against you. Given under my hand and the seal of this court. Civil Judge 1st Class, Samundri, Distt. Faisalabad (257233867672)

DAWN
the complete newspaper

Aitchison College, Lahore

Science Teacher for Junior School

Applications are invited for the post of Science Teacher in Junior School (Grades 4 to 6). The applicant must have experience of teaching Cambridge Primary Curriculum and possess a Masters or equivalent related degree. Experience of teaching mathematics will be an advantage.

Applications must be made via the Careers section of the College website by **Friday 8th November.**

www.aitchison.edu.pk

PRINCIPAL

(LHR-P)

CORRIGENDUM

CATTLE MARKET MANAGEMENT COMPANY SAHIWAL DIVISION

QUOTATION / BID INVITED

Apropos advertisement floated by Cattle Market Management Company Sahiwal Division (CMMCSD) under an IPL No.9307, wherein, Clause No. 3 be read and understood as: A bid security of 2% of reserve price i.e Rs.35,000/- as CDR is must to be attached with the tender documents.

MANAGING DIRECTOR
For Contact: Office House No. 3, Street No. 1, Gurej Shakar Colony Sahiwal
Contact No. 040-4500027

(LHR-O) IPL-9309

Center for Language Engineering

Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science
University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore

TENDER NOTICE

Center for Language Engineering (CLE), Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science (KICS) at the University of Engineering and Technology (UET), Lahore, invites sealed bids through Single Stage-Two Envelope Bidding Procedure under **Punjab Procurement Rules 2014** from authorized dealers fully registered under income tax ordinance and sales tax act for the supply of equipment.

THE SUPPLY ITEMS INCLUDE:

S.#	Item / Description	Qty
1	Workstation (Multithread and FPU supports Dual GPU)	1

Tender Document, containing the detailed specifications, can be obtained from the same day of publication of tender during normal working hour from the office of the Center for Language Engineering (CLE), Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science (KICS) against a written request on company letter head for Director KICS, UET, Lahore along with a **Bank Draft amount Rs 700/-** (Non Refundable) in favor of the **KICS-CLE project.**

The sealed bids along with tender documents and 2% CDR of estimated bid price (attached price is mentioned in tender document), in the name of "**Treasurer, UET, Lahore,**" will be received in the office of the Center for Language Engineering by **November 19, 2019 till 09:30 am** and will be opened, by the Technical Evaluation Procurement Cell **November 19, 2019 at 10:00 am** in UET, Lahore in the presence of the bidders or their representatives. The advertisement has also uploaded at PPRA website (www.ppra.punjab.gov.pk).

For further detail please contact 042-36831444.

Dr. Waqar Mahmood
Director, KICS
Center for Language Engineering, Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science, University of Engineering and Technology, G.T. Road, Lahore, Pakistan. Tel: +92-42-99029406, +92-42-99021444.
Web: www.cle.org.pk, www.kics.edu.pk

(LHR-O) IPL-9022

Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science

University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore

RE-TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders, on C&F and 'Single Stage Two Envelop' basis, are invited from industries for sale and sales tax registered firms / companies for the purchase of following items under Punjab Procurement Rules 2014 (amended):

Sr. #	Equipment Name	Estimated Price PKR (Estimated price is mentioned in Tender Document)
1	Collaborative Robotic system (Cobots)	Rs. 5.0 Million
2	Rapid prototyping machine	Rs. 5.0 Million
3	Wirebenders	Rs. 2.0 Million

Tender Document, containing the detailed specification, can be obtained from the same day of publication against the written request on company letter head for Director, KICS, UET, Lahore along with receipt of Rs. 500/- (Non-Refundable) to be deposited in the **Account No. PK29HABB0010000000 of Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science, maintained in Habib Bank Ltd. UET Branch, Lahore.**

The sealed bids along with tender documents and **2% of the Estimated Price (Estimated price is mentioned in Tender Document)** in the shape of pay order / bank draft in the name of **Treasurer, UET, Lahore** will be received in the office of the **Manager Procurement & Admin, Al-Khawarizmi Institute Computer Science, UET Lahore till 10.11.2019 up-to 9:30 am** and will be opened, by the Director Central Procurement Cell, UET, Lahore, on **the same day at 10:00 am** in the presence of the bidders or their representatives.

Director, KICS, UET, Lahore
Tel: 042-99250247

(LHR-O) IPL-9044

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited on the basis of single stage two envelope bidding procedure as per PPRA rules 2016 clause 38-2(a), from experienced / reputed firms / contractors having valid registration with Labour Department, having NTN and Registered with PRA for the Janitorial Services of TEPA Office premises at 4-C, Lytton Road, Lahore.

Sr. No.	Description of Items	Estimated Cost Earnest Money	Contract Time Period	Closing date	Opening date
1	Janitorial Services for TEPA Office 4-C Lytton Road, Lahore.	Rs. 3,084,816/- At Rs. 71,697/-	12 Month	21.11.2019 10:30 AM	21.11.2019 11:00 AM

Tender Documents (TORs):

Interested eligible bidder may get the tender documents upon payment of Rs. 1,000/- that shall be available to the bidder immediately after publication of this tender during working hours from the address given below.

Terms and Conditions

1. No tender will be issued on the opening date.
2. Tender will not be entertained without earnest money 2% of the estimated cost (in shape of deposit at call).
3. The company will offer the rates inclusive prevailing and approved minimum rates of wages per month, in accordance with the labour laws and all applicable taxes.
4. Any other increased in the minimum rates of wages in future during this janitorial contract period will be fully implemented according to the notifications issued by the Federal or Provincial Government.
5. Initially the contract will be for the period of one year but can be renewed on satisfactory performance with mutual agreed terms & conditions every year upto 03 years by the approval of Competent Authority.
6. All contractors are bound to act according to the instructions, other terms and conditions issued by Govt. of Punjab from time to time.
7. If quoted tender value is less than 05% of the estimated cost the lower bidder shall have to deposit the performance security from a schedule bank upto 10%.
8. Interested parties / firms may purchase TORs / Tender Document on payment of prescribed fee of Rs. 1000/- (non-refundable), from the Tender Selling Booth as the bidding documents would be immediately available after the date of publication of this tender notice and should respond / submit the bid accordingly.
9. The above Advertisement is also available on PPRA website (www.ppra.punjab.gov.pk)

DIRECTOR ADMIN & FINANCE
TEPA, LDA LAHORE
4-C, LYTTON ROAD,
LAHORE
PH: 99212519

(LHR-O) IPL-9471

The Children's Hospital & The Institute of Child Health

Ferozepur Road, Lahore

Phone # (92) (42) 99230001-23 Fax # 99231560

INVITATION FOR BIDS

1. Sealed bids are required from the firms having established credentials in terms of Technical, Financial and Managerial capabilities for the supply of Medical Equipments / General Items as per details given below during current financial year **2019-20.**

Sr. #	Equipment Name	Qty	Mode of Purchase	Schedule of Bid opening
	EQUIPMENT FOR SECOND UNIT OF NEONATOLOGY WARD & SURGICAL ICU			
1	A) Neonatal Cardiac Monitor (Non-invasive)	10	C&F	
	B) Neonatal Cardiac Monitor (Invasive)	10		
2	A) Syringe Pump	110	C&F	
	B) Docking system	30		
3	Ventilator With Compressor & Humidifier HFO-ventilator	10	C&F	
4	Ventilator With Compressor & Humidifier	05	C&F	
5	Infusion Pumps	40	C&F	
6	Neonatal Intensive Care Incubator	25	C&F	
7	Echocardiography machine (Medium Range)	1	C&F	
8	Intensive care Radiant Warmer Resuscitative (Baby resuscitation trolley) Fully Equipped	20	C&F	
9	Mobile X-Ray Machine	1	C&F	
10	Anesthesia Machine	3	C&F	21.11.2019
11	Central Oxygen Supply (Medical Gas Pipe Line System) for supplying piped oxygen, Nitrous Oxide, Nitrogen, CO2 & Medical Air to Facility	As per BOQ	C&F	
12	Pulse Oximeter	57	FOR	
13	A) BP Apparatus Aneroid Mobile (Mercury Free)	4	FOR	
	B) BP Apparatus Aneroid wall Mounted type (Mercury Free)	6		
14	Light Duty Suction Machine	21	FOR	
15	Low Flow Meters	50	FOR	
16	Nebulizers Humidifier Capillary type	2	FOR	
17	Transcutaneous Bilirubino meter	2	FOR	
18	Ultrasonic Nebulizer	5	FOR	
19	OT Ceiling Light	2	FOR	
20	Dialysascope (Neonatal)	10	FOR	
21	ECG Machine (Three Channel)	1	FOR	
22	Breast Pumps	10	FOR	
23	X-Ray Illuminator LED (Local)	14	FOR	
24	Laboration Probes (Neonatal)	40	FOR	
25	Portable Ultrasound machine	1	FOR	
26	Portable Procedure Light (Local)	2	FOR	
27	Neonatal Overhead Warmer / Heater	2	FOR	
28	Ultra Sound Machine (Medium Range)	1	FOR	
29	Neonatal Transport Systems	2	FOR	
30	Resuscitation Trolley	2	FOR	
31	Computer System Core i7 (Latest Generation) 16 GB Ram 1 TB Hard disk 19" LCD with UPS (APC 650 VA) and Black & white Laser Printer	10	FOR	23.11.2019
32	Photocopy Machine (Heavy Duty)	1	FOR	
33	U.P.S (3 KVA)	2	FOR	
34	Fridge 14 cubic feet	1	FOR	
35	A) LED TV 42"	3	FOR	
	B) LED TV 48"	2		
36	Multimedia Projector	2	FOR	
37	A) Black & white Laser Printer heavy duty	2	FOR	
	B) Scanner come Photocopier Laser Printer	2		

2. Interested bidders may get the bidding document along with detailed specifications from the office of **The Medical Director, The Children's Hospital & the Institute of Child Health, Ferozepur Road, Lahore** on submission of written application on letter head and a copy of CNIC along with payment of non-refundable fee of **Rs. 1,000/-** (One thousand only) for each item / package. The bidding document can also be downloaded from the website www.pprp.punjab.gov.pk and The Children's Hospital & the Institute of Child Health, Lahore website **www.chich.edu.pk.** Detailed specifications shall be issued as per advertisement given in PPRA and Health Department Website.
3. **02% Bid Security** of the estimated cost shall be attached with the technical bid in the shape of **CDR** issued from any scheduled bank otherwise tender will be rejected (estimated cost is available in the bidding document).
4. **Single Stage - Two Envelopes** bidding procedure shall be applied. The envelopes shall be marked as **"FINANCIAL PROPOSAL"** and **"TECHNICAL PROPOSAL"** in bold and legible letters. Financial proposal of bids found technically non-responsive shall be returned unopened to the respective bidders.
5. Procurements shall be governed under the Punjab Procurement **Rules, 2014.**
6. Sealed bids are required to be brought in person by the authorized representative of the interested bidders as per dates given in the advertisement published in PPRA and Health Department. The bids will be received as per Schedule given above till **11.00 a.m.** and shall be opened on the same day at **11.30 a.m.** as per Schedule given above in the presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives by the purchase committee.
7. In case of tender as package. The bidders are required to quote for complete package(s). The bidders may participate individually or in association with other qualified agents to complete items of the package(s). The lead bidder shall be eligible for entering into association if it contributes more than **50%** of the total value of major items of the package.
8. All bids should be submitted in tape or ring binding. Bids with loose papers shall be rejected outright. All pages of documents should contain proper page marking, attached in sequence as indicated for evaluation in the bidding document and signatures of authorized person. Moreover, signing and stamping of each page of bidding document / form is mandatory otherwise bid shall be rejected straightaway.
9. Pre-bid meeting shall be held on **07.11.2019** at **11:00 a.m.** in the Conference Room (Admin Block) The Children's Hospital & the Institute of Child Health, Lahore. All interested bidders are requested to submit their reservations, if any, in writing by which will be discussed in the meeting for appropriate decision.
10. In case the date of opening or last date of sale of tender documents is declared as a public holiday by the government or non-working day due to any reason, the next official working day shall be deemed to be the date of sale, submission and opening of tenders accordingly. The time and venue shall remain the same.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saleem
(FCPS, MME-HPE)
Professor of Paediatric Surgery
Medical Director

(LHR-O) IPL-9479

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DAWN

PESHAWAR Friday, November 1, 2019

METRO North

PESHAWAR

Sunset	05:24pm
Sunrise (Tomorrow)	06:31am

NEXT 24 HRS

Minimum	16°C
Maximum	28°C
Outlook	Cloudy

Shadab shines as Pakistan down CA XI in T20 warm-up

Pg.22 SPORT

JUI-F activists holding party flags in Peshawar on Thursday on the way to Islamabad via motorway to participate in Azadi March. — Photo by Abdul Majeed Goraya

Charged workers of opposition parties set out for Islamabad

JUI-F leader puts number of marchers from KP at half million

Dawn Report

PESHAWAR: Tens of thousands of workers of opposition parties and students of seminaries set out for Islamabad from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to take part in Azadi March.

Leader of Opposition in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Akram Khan Durrani, who has affiliation with JUI-F, Awami National Party central president Asfandyar Wali Khan, Qaumi Watan Party chairman Aftab Ahmad Khan Sherpao, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz provincial president Amir Muqam and Pakistan Peoples Party provincial president Hamayun Khan led separate processions of workers of their parties towards Islamabad.

Asfandyar Wali Khan departed for Islamabad from Rashakai Interchange. Senior leaders and thousands of workers of ANP from Charsadda, Mardan, Swabi and Peshawar carrying party's flags joined their leader on motorway.

The marchers, travelling in cars, buses, coaches and trucks, and riding motorbikes, reached Peshawar from all parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and left for Islamabad via motorway and Grand Trunk Road.

JUI-F spokesman Abdul Jalil Jan said that over 10,000 vehicles from different districts, carrying marchers, were on way to Islamabad.

Intelligence agencies' reports suggested that number of marchers was from 25,000 to 30,000. A senior official, however, said that more people were joining the cavalcades and the number of marchers would swell further.

Senior leader of JUI-F Haji Ghulam Ali brushed aside estimates of the intelligence agencies and put the number of participants from KP at more than half a million. "The length of the main procession on M-1 is 25 kilometres," he said.

Like political workers, students of seminaries also proceeded to Islamabad. JUI-F workers and students of seminaries were carrying dry fruits and sleeping bags which indicated that Maulana Fazlur Rehman has planned to prolong his protest in Islamabad. JUI-F leaders said that seminaries had not been closed for the march.

"We are going to Islamabad with full preparation and might stay there for weeks," said Ameen Rehman, a student of seminary. He said that he along with colleagues was going to Islamabad without permission of his teachers.

The workers of JUI-F and ANP were looking very charged and enthusiastic. The ANP workers played nationalist songs, while the JUI-F workers played party songs.

PPP had set up a camp opposite the JUI-F provincial headquarters to facilitate its workers. Initially, it was planned that processions would be taken to Islamabad via GT Road. The plan was changed due to rush and congestion.

Akram Khan Durrani, leading a vehicular procession comprising over 700 vehicles, reached Peshawar from Bannu, his hometown. He led cavalcade on motorway. Thousands of workers of JUI-F from tribal districts including South and North Waziristan were among the marchers.

From Shangla, the workers of JUI-F, ANP, PML-N and PPP left for Islamabad to take part in Azadi March. They gathered at various exit points of the district. The people of Gilgit-Baltistan and Kohistan also staged a protest in Dasdul against blocking of Dasdul and Thakoot bridges with containers.

The protesters chanted slogans against the government and prime minister, however, after holding negotiations with the administration, one bridge was reopened to them.

From Lakki Marwat, a huge vehicular procession of JUI-F left for Islamabad via Peshawar on Thursday morning to take part in Azadi March. Activists from different towns and villages gathered near Kurram Bridge from where JUI-F district chief Maulana Abdul Rahim led the procession.

The workers also chanted slogans against the government.

From Karak, the marchers left for Peshawar after they were joined by the participants of rallies from Bannu, Dera Ismail Khan and Lakki Marwat.

Addressing on the occasion, Akram Durrani said that their protest would continue till acceptance of their demands. He asked Prime Minister Imran Khan to step down.

He said that Imran Khan became prime minister with fake mandate. He recalled that he had once said that if 500 people protested against him he would resign.

From Battagram, the worker of JUI-F, PML-N, PPP and ANP departed in a large number to take part in Azadi March.

From Bajaur tribal district, a convoy of hundreds of vehicles carrying activists of JUI-F, ANP and PML-N left for Islamabad to take part in the march.

Body on jail reforms meets in Haripur

HARIPUR: The oversight committee on implementation of jail reforms held its meeting here on Thursday with deputy commissioner, Haripur, in the chair.

The committee was formed and notified by the provincial home department in the light of recommendations of the federal ombudsman that were framed following a suo motu notice of the apex court.

The recommendations called for implementing reforms that included improving conditions in jails for prisoners, especially women, children and inmates lacking sufficient resources.

The committee had last year presented its recommendations for improvements that were sent to the home department. It again discussed the problems and needs of the jail inmates and decided to visit the Haripur jail on Saturday for compiling another set of recommendations.

Human rights activist Sadaqat Khan, jail superintendent Maqsood Khan Khattak, assistant superintendent Saood Khan, Dr Muhaiman from the University of Haripur, advocate Jawad Habib and advocate Gulnaz Rasheed were the members present in the meeting. — Correspondent

Class-IV workers seek professional health allowance

LAKKI MARWAT: Class-IV employees of the health department here have demanded health professional allowance as given to doctors and paramedics and conversion of CP fund into GP fund.

The demand was made at the oath-taking ceremony of health department's class-IV employees union at the district headquarters hospital, Tajazai, here on Thursday.

Former district naib nazim Arab Khan was the chief guest at the ceremony, which was also attended by All Pakistan Class-IV Employees Union's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chapter president Akbar Khan Mohmand, provincial general secretary Ishfaq Ahmad Khattak, finance secretary Gul Faraz and other office-bearers.

The chief guest administered oath to the newly-elected office-bearers and announced a cash donation of Rs10,000 for the employees' union. Arab Khan said that he would make all-out efforts for acceptance of the demands of class-IV employees by the provincial government.

"I will take up the demands for provision of health professional allowance and conversion of CP fund into GP fund with the relevant quarters of the provincial government," he said on this occasion.

Mr Mohmand said that class-IV employees were the backbone of the government machinery and their genuine problems should be resolved. He congratulated the new office-bearers and called upon them to forge unity for resolution of their problems. — Correspondent

PRAYER

Fajr	05.10
Zuhar	12.01
Asr	03.45
Maghreb	05.23
Isha	06.48

Starting time in Peshawar

REFLECTIONS

"AN ADVICE: DO NOT LOSE HOPE IN GOD'S MERCY AT THE SAME TIME DO NOT TAKE FOR GRANTED IMMUNITY FROM HIS PUNISHMENT."
— HAZRAT ALI (A.S.)

758/1427

Deworming drive gets poor response in Haripur

Many students shifted to health centres over vomiting complaints

Dawn Report

HARIPUR: The government's school-based deworming campaign received a lukewarm response in Haripur district as most residents opposed their children taking anthelmintics.

Most students absented themselves from schools, while parents of several others asked teachers not to give worm pills to their children.

"A total of 315 students are enrolled in my school but only 30 have showed up, while the others remained absent and when their parents were approached, they voiced fears about deworming and refused to send children to school," a teacher of a government primary school in Pharhala Circle.

He said parents feared that anthelmintics would harm the children's health.

A teacher of the Government Primary School, Akodi, said the school had 300 children but only 90 turned up with parents of most of them declining deworming.

The deworming refusal was reported in other schools of the district as well.

There are also reports of over a dozen children being shifted to hospitals from different government and private schools over vomiting and stomachache complaints following the consumption of anthelmintics.

The doctors insisted that it was a temporary condition associated with deworming and had nothing to worry about.

District education officer Umar Khan Kundi said stereotypes would've have forced some parents to decline the children's deworming.

He said since parents weren't supposed to pay for medication, it was quite natural that they raised non-issues about it like polio vaccination.

STUDENTS being administered worm pills at a government girls' school in Peshawar on Thursday. — Photo by Shahbaz Butt

Also, many schoolchildren were shifted to health centres in both Upper and Lower Chitral districts as they complained of vomiting and dizziness after being administered anthelmintics on the first day of the deworming campaign.

However, they were discharged after treatment.

Deputy commissioner of Upper Chitral Shah Saud told Dawn that vomiting and dizziness complaints were reported in Ding, Phashk, Koshi and Oveer villages of Upper Chitral and Phasti, Prayool, Jinjirat Koh and Arkari villages of Lower Chitral.

District health officer Dr Mujeebur Rahman insisted that the children with weak immunity or empty stomach were vulnerable to the worm tablet's reaction but it was not a matter of concern.

He said these missing deworming dose would be covered later.

In Shangla, dozens of students fainted after the teachers administered worm tablets to them.

Such incidents were also reported in Lilonai, Alpurai and other areas.

The teachers shifted them to the district headquarters hospital, Alpuri.

Spokesperson for Alpuri THQ hospital Dr Shaid ullah Sagib said over 30 children were brought to the hospital but they all were stable and were discharged after treatment.

In Batkhela, around 50 schoolchildren, including girls, were shifted to the district headquarters hospital over complaints of stomachache and vomiting after deworming.

They were discharged after brief treatment.

Provincial anti-narcotics law challenged in high court

Petitioner insists federal law on matter exists, so KP's is against constitution

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: A resident has moved the Peshawar High Court against the enactment of a special anti-narcotics law by the provincial government insisting that in the presence of the federal government's Control of Narcotics Substance Act, 1997, a provincial law on the subject couldn't be enacted.

Amanullah of Peshawar filed the petition requesting the court to declare that the KP Control of Narcotics Substance Act (KPCNSA), 2019, is unconstitutional, illegal, without jurisdiction and against the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

He sought as an interim relief the suspension of the operation of the law until the final disposal of the petition.

Respondents in the petition are the provincial government through the chief secretary, provincial secretaries of the law and establishment departments, federal law secretary, and the provincial assembly's secretary.

The KPCNSA was passed by the provincial assembly on Aug 27 and received the governor's assent on Sept 2.

While passing the law, the government had claimed that it had incorporated specific provisions for checking the growing use of ice drug in the province.

The petitioner's lawyer, Noor Alam Khan, is an expert on narcotics laws.

The petitioner said the federal government had enacted a comprehensive law called Control of Narcotics Substance Act (CNSA), 1997, and had provided therein special provisions for curbing the menace of narcotics.

He said the onus to prove the guilt of accused had not been placed entirely on the prosecution rather on the accused to prove his innocence as well.

The petitioner said the CNSA, 1997, was a very rigid special law wherein extreme punishment of death or imprisonment for life had been provided.

He added that the provision of bail had been ousted by the CNSA, while the vehicles used in the offence were also confiscated to the State.

The petitioner said despite the presence of the CNSA, the provincial government recently passed the KPCNSA.

He said the CNSA, 1997, had already been extended to whole of Pakistan, so in its presence, the provincial assembly had no authority to pass a law on same subject.

The petitioner said although the Concurrent Legislative List of the Constitution had been omitted from the Constitution through the Constitution (Eighteenth Amendment) Act, 2010, a mini concurrent list continued to exist in Article 142 relating to criminal law, criminal procedure and evidence and therefore, any law made by a provincial legislature on those subjects would be against Article 143 of the Constitution, while the federal law on the subject would prevail.

Advocate Noor Alam Khan said under the doctrine of 'occupied field', the federal law of narcotics was already there and applicable to the entire Pakistan, which had been implemented by well-trained and experienced officers of the Anti-Narcotics Force, so the enactment of new law manifested the mala fide intent on part of the provincial government.

He said the impugned KPCNSA would only be applicable to the province, whereas rest of the country would be covered by the federal CNSA that was a clear violation of Article 25 of the Constitution.

Power supply to remain suspended

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Peshawar Electric Supply Company has announced six to eight hours power suspension in different areas of Peshawar on Saturday (November 2) due to maintenance work on transmission lines.

According to a statement issued here on Thursday, the consumers of 11KV Industrial, Naguman, Haryana 1, Dandai 1 and 2, Old Naguman, New Khazana, 11KV New Naguman, Khazana and Takhtabad feeders will face inconvenience because of power suspension from 8am to 2pm.

It was stated that the consumers of 11KV Kochian 1 and 2, Mathra 1 and 2, Sardarabad, Swat Scouts and Shahgai Industrial feeders still also suffer from 8am to 4pm on Saturday.

Huge amount allocated for uplift of tribal districts, says CM

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Mahmood Khan has said that a huge amount of Rs83 billion has been allocated for development of tribal districts.

He was addressing a khuli kutcheri in Garyum area of North Waziristan tribal district, said a statement issued here.

He said that Rs2.92 billion was already released for the land utilization of Miramshah market and Rs6.9 billion was provided to Tribal Electric Supply Company (Tesco) for electrification in North Waziristan.

He said that electrification project for Garyum area had been started in 2017 with an estimated cost of Rs197.978 million under which 11KV feeder was installed and inaugurated on Thursday. The feeder will provide electricity to 55 villages of the area.

The statement said that MPAs Mir Kalam, Iqbal Wazir and Malik Shah Mohammad Wazir besides tribal elders attended the khuli kutcheri. It said that chief minister listened to the problems of local people and issued directives for their resolution on the spot.

Mr Khan said that provincial government was spending huge resources to bring tribal people to the mainstream of development. He said that the announcement made by Prime Minister Imran Khan regarding establishment of higher educational institutions in tribal districts would be materialised.

He said that it was a major change that representatives of tribal districts were present in the provincial assembly.

"The credit goes to the incumbent government, which merged the region with the province and then held general election in the merged districts for the first time in the history of the country," he added.

Mr Khan said that that border crossings at Ghulam Khan and Angor Adda would also be established on the pattern of Torkham border to boost trade activities in the entire region.

He said that construction of Dera-Peshawar Expressway would change the destiny of the southern and tribal districts. He said that government would try to develop Shawal as tourist zone. He added that Thall-Miranh road project was included in the Annual Developmental Programme.

Earlier, the chief minister inaugurated 11KV feeder.— Bureau Report

A group photo of key speakers of seminar on Breast Cancer Awareness with the First Lady of Pakistan Madam Samina Arif Alvi organized by Shifa International Hospital Islamabad.

New grid station to be set up in Swabi

SWABI: A 220KV grid station would be established in the district to ensure smooth supply of electricity to the consumers, sources in Pesco told this correspondent here the other day.

They said that the project had already been approved and it would cost Rs6.13 billion. They said that work on the grid station was expected to be started soon and it would be completed in three years.

Sources said that National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser was taking great interest in the project and in this regard he was in constant contact with the officials concerned and leaders of the ruling party in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

They said that Mr Qaiser also wanted upgradation of the transmission line as electricity requirements of the people had increased manifold.

The establishment of grid station is a longstanding demand of the local people.

The sources said that the new grid station would resolve the issue of prolonged outages and low voltage. Besides, it would also ensure smooth power supply to the consumers and industry in the district, especially Gadoon Amazai Industrial Estate.

KILLED: A man was stabbed to death in Jalozi village of Chota Lahor tehsil.

Registering an FIR, Khanul Basar told police that his son Fazalullah, 24, was attacked with a dagger allegedly by Wahid Khan and he soon succumbed to his injuries. The cause of the incident was stated to be a dispute over a land route. The police have arrested the alleged killer.— Correspondent

Call for Expression of Interest

Project: Community Driven Local Development Program, Local Government, Elections and Rural Development Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (GoKP)

Advertisement for Hiring of Individual Consultants

Aiming community empowerment, lives and livelihood of key stakeholders, collaborating with GoKP in Local Development

Deputy Commissioner, District Battagram invites applications from eligible individual consultants from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa preferably from Hazara Division for the following contractual positions under Community Driven Local Development Program of Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Duration of the assignment is one year from the date of contract signing extendable for another period of one year on mutual consent of the parties and subject to clearance/recommendation from performance review committee specially constituted for the purpose.

Sr	Name & Number of Positions	Qualification, experience, age limit & monthly fee / package
i.	Program Officer Social Mobilization (01)	• At least Master Degree (Sixteen Years) of formal education in Social Sciences, Public Administration, Project Management or any other relevant discipline from HEC recognized University. • A minimum of five years' experience in public or development sector organization or both would be basic eligibility. • Age limit shall be up to maximum 50 years till the date of publication of this call for EOI. • The individual consultant would be paid monthly fee @ Rs. 90,000/PKR (lump sum).
ii.	Social Mobilizers (Male 01)	i. Master Degree (Sixteen Years) of formal education in Social Sciences or relevant from HEC recognized University with four years' experience in public or development sector organizations or both would be basic eligibility. or ii. At least Bachelor Degree (Fourteen Years) of formal education (Major Subjects of Social Sciences) or relevant with six years' experience in relevant field. iii. Age limit shall be up to maximum 45 years till the date of publication of this call for EOI. iv. The individual consultant would be paid monthly fee @ Rs. 50,000/PKR (lump sum).
iii.	Social Mobilizers (Female 02)	i. Master Degree (Sixteen Years) of formal education in Social Sciences from HEC recognized University with four years' experience in public or development sector organizations or both would be basic eligibility. or ii. At least Bachelor Degree (Fourteen Years) of formal education (Major Subjects of Social Sciences) or relevant with six years' experience in relevant field. iii. Age limit shall be up to maximum 45 years till the date of publication of this call for EOI. iv. The individual consultant would be paid monthly fee @ Rs. 50,000/PKR (lump sum).

Terms and Conditions:
To check the capability of consultants, screening and evaluation test for these positions will be conducted under the supervision of National Testing Service (NTS). For this job application form, non deposit slip along with other necessary details. Please visit the NTS website (www.nts.org.pk) Job application without original fee deposit slip will not be entertained. To see TORs of the assignment, selection criteria for the positions you can see following official website www.cddm.gk & KPPRA website: www.kppra.gov.pk

Please refer to following details for more information:
i. The selection process for the positions shall be governed under KPPRA Procurement Rules 2014.
ii. Based on screening and evaluation test results, Interview call letter will be issued to shortlisted candidates only. No TA/DA will be admissible for the interview.
iii. Incomplete application or the ones received after the closing date will not be entertained.
iv. If the closing date fixed for the receipt of application forms falls on any official holiday, the next working day will be considered as the closing date.
v. Assignment specific experience is mandatory, the candidates having less or no required experience will not be contracted for interview.
vi. The competent authority reserves the right to change any condition, not to fill or cancel the requirement process.
vii. Errors/omissions related to this advertisement are subject to the rectification.

Interested applicant may like to send their interest on prescribed job application form accompanied by detailed curriculum vitae (CV), attested copies of all certificates and documents (including academic degrees, professional diplomas, experience certificates etc.), one recent passport size photograph, copy of computerized identity card must reach the office of NTS (NTS Headquarters, Plot # 96, Street # 4, H-8/1, Islamabad), within 15 days of the publication of this advertisement.

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- NTS will not issue Roll No Slips through email/postal services to any candidate.
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Deputy Commissioner Battagram

Focal Person Name & Designation: Mr. Altaf Hussain (Addl: Deputy Commissioner Battagram)
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
Hiring of Third-Party Recruitment Firm (Testing Services)

Elementary & Secondary Education Department (E&SED) of the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (GoKP) is seeking a reputable and experienced Third-Party Recruitment Firm for the provision of testing services under a blanket contract for a period of three years. The firm will assist E&SED in hiring of its staff (teaching and non-teaching) through competitive process all over the KP. The firm is expected to undertake the whole cycle of recruitment including inviting applications from candidates, their registration, screening as per eligibility criteria, design and conduct of tests and selection of final candidates based on merit.

For the above purpose, the Elementary & Secondary Education Department invites eligible firms to submit their proposals for providing the above Services using Single Stage Two Envelopes procedure. Interested firms should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the task.

General Requirement & Eligibility Criteria

a) The firm shall have a legal status recognized by law.
b) Must be registered with tax authorities and be an active taxpayer.
c) Minimum 05 years' experience to conduct tests i.e teaching, non-teaching and management staff testing at a large scale for Public and Private Sector entities particularly education sector.
d) Demonstrated capacity to take paper-based as well as computer-based tests for general/ specific teaching, non-teaching & education sector management positions.
e) Demonstrated strong management system of test development, administration and having vast position specific question bank. Also, the firm should have a secure printing press.
f) The firm must not be insolvent, bankrupt, blacklisted or debarred by any public or private sector entity or any other organization or procurement regulatory authority in any province or Islamabad capital territory.

A firm will be selected in accordance with the "Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)" method set out in KPPRA rules 2014.

Interested firms may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications.

Further information related to this procurement can be obtained at the address below during office hours i.e. 09:00 to 17:00 Monday to Friday. The detailed RFP can be downloaded from https://www.kpesc.gov.pk and https://www.kppra.gov.pk

RFP completed in all respects must reach the address below by November 20, 2019 before 12:00 noon which will be opened on the same day at 12:30 p.m in the presence of the representatives of the firms.

Each and every page of the Original RFP Document must be duly signed and stamped by the authorized person of the Bidding firm. The procurement entity reserves the right to reject any or all RFPs received under KPPRA rules 2014 with valid reasons.

Director Elementary & Secondary Education
Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
GT Road, Peshawar, Pakistan
Tel: +92-91-9225344
Fax: +92-91-9225345
Email: ddu.esekp@gmail.com

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InfoKPGovt @InfoKPGovt www.infokhyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk Send KP to 8333

KP-P-24336 (DSB-11)

Timely completion of Tarbela fourth extension power project lauded

WB President David Malpass visits Tarbela Dam

By Our Correspondent

SWABI: World Bank President David R. Malpass here on Thursday lauded the timely completion of Tarbela Fourth Extension Hydropower Project in less than the estimated cost.

He expressed these views during his visit to Tarbela Dam. He was accompanied by Minister for Water Resources Faisal Vawda and Wapda Chairman retired Lt-Gen Muzammil Hussain. Senior officials, including Tarbela Dam chief engineer (power) Ihsanullah and general manager Jamil Akhtar, were also present on the occasion.

Mr Malpass said that the work on completed fourth extension project was impressive.

Briefing the WB president about the benefits of the Tarbela Dam project, the Wapda chairman said that as many as 378 MAF water had been released from Tarbela reservoir to meet irrigation needs of the country, while the Tarbela Hydel Power Station contributed 523 billion units of electricity to the national grid.

In addition, he said that the fourth extension hydropower project, commissioned last year, had generated 5.6 billion units, more than the generation envisaged in PC-I of the project.

Earlier, Mr Vawda said that the WB had been providing assistance to Pakistan for harnessing water and hydropower resources since 1960.

He hoped that this cooperation would be enhanced for implementation of various projects in future.

He said that steps were being taken under a comprehensive strategy to improve water resources in the country and fulfil the increasing requirements of power of both the people and industrial sector.

He hoped that the water resources sector would further grow with the WB cooperation and provision of generous financial assistances.

The Wapda chairman said that the bank not only helped broker Indus Water Treaty between Pakistan and India at a very critical time, but also administered the entire financial arrangements with the assistance of friendly countries to complete the Indus Basin Replacement Works, which included two mega dams namely Mangla and Tarbela and other projects.

He also appreciated the WB for its financial support for the Tarbela 4th Extension Hydropower Project, Dasu Hydropower Project and upcoming Tarbela 5th extension hydropower project.

Kohat TMA seals private fruit and vegetable market

By Our Correspondent

KOHAT: Officials of the tehsil municipal administration (TMA) on Thursday sealed the operational private Shehbaz Gul Fruit and Vegetable Market located in the vicinity of city, for third time.

Tehsil municipal officer Hamid Mansoor told this scribe that they had cancelled the licence of the market in 2018 after which it ceased to operate till Sept 25, 2019. He said that the owner was asked to fulfil all the prerequisites within a month, but he could not so. He said that there was a conspiracy going on to close down the government market which he would not allow.

Answering a question that hundreds of traders were getting cheaper items on their doorstep from the private vegetable market in the city, he said that if this plea was accepted then all the people would open markets in the city, which was unacceptable.

It may be mentioned here that the government market operated in the city for 33 years, but after expiry of the lease period the TMA did not renew it and moved it outside the city.

When contacted, owner of the private vegetable market Shehbaz Gul said that the Supreme Court had turned down plea of the TMA in 2013 and allowed the market to function. He said that he was granted a licence on court orders in 2015 on 25 conditions which he fulfilled.

He claimed that the shops in the government market had been distributed among irrelevant businessmen and being sold at high prices of Rs1 million, and as such nobody was ready to go there. He said that the TMA was closing down his market on flimsy grounds.

He said that now the officials had said that dimensions of the map were not according to the required building and he must obtain a no-objection certificate from the National Highway Authority.

He said that the market was located at a distance of eight kilometres from the highway.

Arrest of all suspects in DEO murder case sought

SHANGLA: The core committee of teachers here has demanded of the government to ensure arrest of the remaining suspects in the murder case of Kolai-Palas district education officer Nawab Ali.

The demand came during a meeting of the committee which was presided over by Jehan Dilbar in Chakesar the other day. The committee demanded of the government to immediately arrest the suspects nominated in the DEO's murder case, including MPA Mufti Ubaidur Rehman.

It said that the token strike and protests would continue till Nov 5, the deadline set by the teachers for resolution of their demands.

FLOUR MILLS: The district food controller (DFC) inspected Dilbair Flour Mills, Bisham, and Thakot Flour Mills, Dandai, here the other day in view of shortage of flour in the district.

The management and owners of the flour mills were asked on the occasion to sell the commodity on rates fixed by the government. The DFC told mediapersons on this occasion that wheat flour should be provided to all the dealers of Shangla and the daily sale and supply position should be intimated to the his office regularly.

The DFC also visited Bisham and Dandai bazaars and checked availability of wheat flour. — Correspondent

A BOY participates in a provincial Naat competition held in Peshawar on Thursday. — White Star

Pemra bar on Fazl presser coverage illegal: PHC

Court observes channels can file contempt petitions if such restraining orders issued again

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Peshawar High Court has ruled that the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority's act of stopping television channels from airing the news conference of Jamiat Ulemaa-Islam-Fazl chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman was illegal and a violation of the Constitution and the Pemra Ordinance, 2002.

A bench consisting of Chief Justice Waqar Ahmed Seth and Justice Ahmad Ali ruled that the ban on the media coverage of the JUI-F's presser violated Article 19 of the Constitution and Section 27 of Pemra Ordinance.

The bench had pronounced on Oct 29 a short order of accepting the petition of lawyer and JUI-F leader Obaidullah Anwar, who had challenged the Pemra's act of stopping news channels from telecasting Mr Fazl's news conference through verbal orders and requested the court to declare it illegal and unconstitutional.

In the detailed judgment, the bench cited the provisions of Constitution and Pemra Ordinance, 2002, and directed Pemra to ensure that private television channels air the opposition's activities on a par with the government's.

The bench observed that if any channel was again told not to cover the JUI-F leader's news conference, the petitioner could file a contempt petition with the court.

Quoting Section 27 of the Pemra Ordinance, the bench ruled that the said provision clearly revealed that the authority should by order in writing prohibit any broadcast media or distribution service operator.

It, however, said records of the case would reveal that there was existed no such orders in writing and instead, the Pemra verbally instructed all TV channels not to telecast the news conference of the JUI-F leader, which was a clear violation of the law.

The bench observed that Article 19 of the Constitution provided every citizen to have the right to freedom of speech and expression, etc.

It referred to a Supreme Court judgement in a case of Dr Shahid Masood and others (2010 SCMR 1849) wherein it was declared that the role attached to electronic media stemmed out of the fundamental rights of freedom of speech, expression and of press as guaranteed by article 19 of the Constitution.

In the same judgment, the court had ruled that equally important, if not more, was the right of every citizen to have access to information in all matters of public importance as guaranteed by provisions of Article 19-A of the Constitution.

Meanwhile, the court also released the detailed judgment in two other petitions, one filed by Obaidullah Anwar and other by Anwar Ali Mohmand against the placing of shipping containers on roads for blocking the rallies bound for Islamabad to join the JUI-F's Azadi March.

The bench had accepted the two petitions on Oct 29.

In the detailed order, the bench ruled that the act of the respondents, including provincial government, to place containers to block roads to Islamabad was illegal and without lawful authority.

It asked the respondents to open the roads immediately by removing containers till the vicinity of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province.

However, the bench directed the petitioners to furnish a bond to the high court's additional registrar (judicial) to declare that marchers will remain peaceful and will not damage the public and government property.

It referred to articles 15, 16 and 17 of the Constitution observing that those provisions guaranteed freedom of movement, the peaceful assembling of people and the formation of association or union.

Conference on prosperity through research ends

PESHAWAR: The three-day international multidisciplinary research conference on global prosperity through research and sustainable development concluded here in Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University (SBBWU).

A statement issued here said that the conference was jointly organised by the SBBWU, Sarhad University of Science and Information Technology (SUIT), Abdul Wali Khan University, Mardan, and University of Malakand. It was aimed at providing a multidisciplinary platform to the research community on a large scale.

The statement said that the conference was aimed at promotion of interdisciplinary interactions and discussion on issues related to global prosperity to attain sustainable development goals (SDGs) through research. A total of 360 papers were received in four disciplines, including natural sciences, management sciences, computer science and information technology, and social sciences.

Of these, 102 papers were in social sciences, 35 in engineering and IT and 70 in natural sciences. A large number of presenters from the country along with international delegates from UK, Turkey, Egypt and Brazil shared their works on the theme.

In the concluding ceremony, the keynote speaker, Prof Dr Patrick McNamara of University of Nebraska at Omaha, US, presented his paper and explained the role of culture in sustainable development of a society. He also explained different aspects of culture that a society adopted and the variety of ways in which the sustainable growth might be ensured.

SBBWU vice-chancellor Dr Razia Sultana thanked the collaborating varsities and delegates for sharing their research and knowledge.

SUIT VC Engineer Dr Salimur Rehman stated that the universities had taken measures to ensure quality research. He said that Pakistan was not one of the quality research contributors in the world. He suggested that after every such conference recommendations should be forwarded for consideration of the policy makers. — Bureau Report

Favouritism alleged in road project tendering

CHITRAL: All Government Contractors Association, Chitral, president Noor Ahmed Khan has expressed reservation about the tendering process of six-kilometre Urnoon road project by Sarhad Rural Support Programme. He alleged that the local contractors were discouraged from taking part in the competition.

Talking to mediapersons here the other day, he said that the organisation should follow the rules and regulations of procurement as laid down by KP Public Procurement Regulatory Authority and Pakistan Engineering Council.

He claimed that presently the organisation was free from all such rules, which gave it an opportunity to favour some competitors over others. He said that they were registered government contractors from Chitral, but the organisation had set such conditions that they were rendered ineligible to take part in the competition. The project manager could not be contacted despite repeated phone calls.

BODY FOUND: Body of a pregnant woman was found dumped in Shah village here the other day on Chitral-Garam Chashma Road near the site where the bullet-riddled body of her husband, Waqar Ahmed, was found a day earlier.

Chitral police told this scribe that Tasfana from Dir Kohistan had married Waqar Ahmed of Garam Chashma village last year without consent of her parents.

Sources said that father of the girl along with his sons came to the village and started staying with them after reconciliation. They claimed that the couple was accompanying them to Chitral city for treatment of the woman when they were shot dead. The local police have started search for the killers. — Correspondent

Land acquisition begins for Dasu power project

MANSEHRA: Deputy commissioner of Upper Kohistan district Arif Khan Yousafzai on Thursday said the administration had begun the acquisition of over 9,000 acres of land for Dasu hydropower project.

Mr Yousafzai told reporters on Thursday that Upper Kohistan district, where the project was being executed, was an unsettled area as far as the land was concerned, so after assuming the office almost a month ago, he had ensured the settlement of all land issues with the help of the local jirga.

He said the administration had acquired 730 acres of land leading to the start of work.

The deputy commissioner said the Dasu project would improve the socio-economic conditions of the residents and help address power shortage in the country.

REPAIR OF FIRE TENDERS: Assistant commissioner of Oghi tehsil Mohammad Shojaen Wazir has ordered the tehsil municipal administration to repair fire tenders without delay and ensure they are in working order to control fires.

During a meeting, which reviewed the recent fire incident and faulty fire tenders, the AC said the administration won't accept any excuse for fire engines being not in working condition in future and would take action against the relevant officials.

He said a mock exercise would be held soon to check the performance of fire tenders and build the capacity of firefighters.

Meanwhile, barbers in Oghi tehsil have announced that they will no more close shops on Mondays and will work all through the week to meet growing expenses.

The announcement was made by the barber association's leader, Ashfaq Khan, after a meeting. Mr Ashfaq said the barbers in Mansehra city had already stopping taking a day off every week. — Correspondent

SOYEM

Soyem of my mother
Mrs. Husan Ara Wajahat

W/O (late) Wajahat Hussain Siddqiui

Shall be held on
Saturday 2nd November 2019, between Asr and Maghrib
at House No. A-108/2, 25th Street,
off Khayaban-e-Sehr, DHA.

For both ladies and gentlemen.

Family

Nabila/Sohail, 0321-2201119
Roohi/Shahid, 0345-5099994
Sana/Umair, 0321-9240678
Sara/Omair

OBITUARY

It is with deep sorrow we announce the passing away of

Ms. Nafees Mahmood

beloved daughter of Late Mr. MAK Chaudhry (Former Interior Secretary-IG Police) and Begum Suraiya Mahmood (*Inna Lillah e wa inna ilaihe Rajeoon*).

Her Qul will be held on Saturday 02 November between 4 and 5 pm at her residence 65 Q, Street 2, Phase 2, DHA Lahore.

Begum Suraiya Mahmood
Mouzam and Noreen Mahmood
Farukh and Shahrukh Pracha
Mehr and Sherjeel Bedaar
Faisal and Maheen Yaqub
Adoring Grandchildren
Dr. Shahid Amjad Chaudhry
and all members of the family

RASM-E-QUL

Major (R) Dr Farrukh Hussain Kazmi, Son of Safdar Hussain Kazmi(Federal Secretary) (R) has passed away on Wednesday, Oct 30, 2019. His Qul will be held today on 1st Nov, 2019,11.00AM at: House 28, Street 37,F-7/1 Islamabad.

Please Join us in prayers

لڑکی لڑکے کی رشتیداری کے
لیئے ھم سے رابطہ کریں
مزید تفصیلات کے لیئے اس
نمبر پر کال یا واٹس ایپ
کریں
FM MARRIED
BURROW نام ہی کافی
ہے صرف اس نمبر پر رابطہ
03173639927 کریں

کاروباری حضرات کے لیئے خوشخبری

آپ اپنی کاروباری اشتھارات بلکل مناسب ریٹ میں

مندرج ذیل طریقے سے اپنے کاروبار کا نام روشن کریں

ایف ایم یوٹرچوائس واٹس ایپ گروپ کی ہر پی ڈی ایف فائل کی آخر میں اپنا اشتھار لگوائیں لاکھوں واٹس ایپ ممبرز ایک دن میں آپ کا اشتھار پڑھینگے

سندھ کی کسی بھی ریڈیو اسٹیشن پر۔پاکستان کی کسی بھی اخبار یا کسی بھی ٹی وی پر اپنا کاروباری اشتھارات لگوانے / چلوانے کے لیئے ھم سے رابطہ کریں گھر بیٹھے اپنے کاروبار کا نام روشن کریں

مزید معلومات کے لیئے امان اللہ

03053028815#03082969945

ایف ایم ٹی وی فیس بک پیج کو لائک کریں
مزید خبریں لرنگ ویڈیوز دیکھتے رہیں

FM TV
Yesterday at 9:46 PM
like
عرفان بلوچ ڈی آئے جی لاڑکانہ کی پریس کانفرنس
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عرفان بلوچ میڈیا کانفرنس کر رہے ہیں

ایف ایم ٹی کو ملک بہر سے میل فیمیل
رپورٹرز درکار ہیں رابطہ کریں واٹس ایپ یا کال

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